MARVEL

the AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

WANTED

SPIDER-HUNT

SPIDER-MAN

WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE

SPIDER-HUNT

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SPIDER-MAN

WANTED DEAD OR ALIVE

SPIDER-HUNT

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MACKIE
ROMITA JR
HANNA

PETER PARKER SPIDER-MAN®

Stan Lee presents: PETER PARKER SPIDER-MAN

WHO DID JOEY Z?

OUR STORY BEGINS IN NEW YORK CITY, ON A WINTER'S EVE, OUTSIDE A MIDTOWN MANHATTAN POLICE PRECINCT.

IT ENDS --

WELL, YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO STICK AROUND TO SEE WHERE IT ENDS.

WILL YOU LOOK AT THIS, JACK. ANOTHER ONE COURTESY OF OUR *FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN.*

YOU'D THINK THE WALL-CRAWLER'D BE BUSY ENOUGH WITH HALF THE CITY TRYING TO COLLECT THE ONE MIL THAT OSBORN'S PUT ON HIS HEAD.

GIVE ME A HAND CUTTING THIS POOR SLOB DOWN?

ONE-WAY

MI

NAH! LET'S GET *DETECTIVE SNIPES* TO SUPERVISE THIS BOOKING...

MIDTOWN PRE

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"HE HASN'T GOTTEN HIS HANDS DIRTY SINCE GETTING PROMOTED OUT OF UNIFORM.

"I THINK HE MAY BE STARTING TO COP AN ATTITUDE NOW THAT HE'S WEARING A SUIT AND RIDING A DESK INSTEAD OF A PATROL CAR.

"TIME TO REMIND HIM OF WHERE HE CAME FROM."

Oh, ***DETECTIVE!*** WE'VE GOT A SITUATION OUTSIDE THAT REQUIRES THE IMMEDIATE ATTENTION OF A SUPERVISING OFFICER.

YOU MIGHT WANT TO BRING A PAIR OF SCISSORS... AND A BLOWTORCH.

Huh?

A FEW MINUTES LATER...

JEEZ! YUCK!

YOU SAY THIS IS NORMAL? IT HAPPENS ALL THE TIME?

THAT'S RIGHT, DETECTIVE.

THREE, SOMETIMES FOUR TIMES A WEEK.

THEY DON'T CALL HIM THE WEB-SLINGER FOR NOTHING.

WONDERFUL.

ONE OF YOU OFFICERS WANT TO GIVE ME A HAND HERE? THIS GUY IS PRETTY MUCH DEAD WEIGHT.

NAH, DETECTIVE, YOU'VE GOT IT ALL UNDER CONTROL.

YEAH. WE'RE SURPRISED YOU GOT HIM DOWN THIS QUICKLY, DETECTIVE. IT USUALLY TAKES ***MUCH*** LONGER!

LUCKY ME.

WHAT DO WE DO *NOW?*

OPEN IT UP, DETECTIVE, CLEAN HIM UP AND RUN HIM THROUGH FINGER-PRINTS.

YOU CAN USUALLY COUNT ON A LIST OF PRIORS AS LONG AS YOUR RIGHT ARM.

SPIDEY ONLY DROPS OFF THE MOST SERIOUS SKELLS.

OPEN IT UP *HOW?*

WONDERFUL.

YOU HEAR THAT, BUDDY? I NEED YOUR HELP IF WE'RE GOING TO GET YOU OUT OF THERE BEFORE SPRING THAW.

YOU LISTENING TO ME?

TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, AT THIS STAGE, YOUR BARE HANDS WORK BEST. OF COURSE IT HELPS IF THE SUBJECT IS COOPERATIVE. ***WHICH*** THEY USUALLY ARE. ***ANYTHING*** TO GET OUT OF THAT GUNK!

YOU MIGHT WANT TO SPEAK UP, DETECTIVE. THE STUFF GETS IN THEIR EARS SOME-TIMES.

YOU MIGHT WANT TO TRY --

SHUT UP!

SOMEONE CALL A MEDICAL EXAMINER. ***NOW!***

WHATTA YOU TALKIN' ABOUT, DETECTIVE? HE'S JUST --

JOKE'S OVER, JACK...

...THIS MAN IS DEAD.

"SPIDER-MAN KILLED HIM."

A SHORT TIME LATER AT THE HOME OF PETER AND MARY JANE PARKER...

RRRRRING

I'VE GOT IT... HERO.

THANKS, MJ...

...I'M A LUCKY GUY.

HELLO?

WHAT?

ARE YOU SURE?

YEAH. HE'S RIGHT HERE.

PETER, IT'S THE BUGLE. YOU'RE GOING TO ***WANT*** TO TAKE THIS.

A SHORT TIME LATER...

WE'VE GOT HIM THIS TIME, BOYS!

AND I WANT TO NAIL HIM ONCE AND FOR ALL.

I'VE BEEN DREAMING ABOUT THIS MOMENT FOR YEARS.

YOU BE READY WITH THE CAMERA, PETER, M'BOY! I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING.

BEN, YOU... WELL, I DON'T HAVE TO TELL YOU WHAT TO DO. GET THE FACTS, GET THE STORY...

...WE GO TO PRINT IN ONE HOUR.

LOOK AT THIS!

WE'RE THE ***ONLY*** MEDIA ON THE SCENE.

MY CONTACT IN THE MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE GAVE ME A GOOD ONE. WE'VE GOT AN EXCLUSIVE ON THIS ONE, BOYS.

DON'T LET ME DOWN.

WE WON'T, JONAH.

THIS HAS GOT TO BE A BAD DREAM.

MINUTES LATER...

THE VICTIM'S NAME WAS JOEY Z., Mr. URICH. A STREET CRIMINAL. PLENTY OF PRIORS, BUT NOTHING MAJOR.

THE M.E. IS GIVING THE APPARENT CAUSE OF DEATH AS ASPHYXIATION, Mr. URICH, THOUGH AN OFFICIAL CAUSE WILL HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL AFTER AN AUTOPSY. YOU KNOW THE ROUTINE.

YEAH... I DO.

ANY SUSPECTS YET, DETECTIVE SNIPES?

YOU JOKING? THERE'S ONLY ***ONE.***

I DON'T NEED THIS.

BAD ENOUGH THAT OSBORN HAS GOT EVERYONE BELIEVING THAT SPIDER-MAN IS THE BAD GUY FOR BEATING HIM UP.

HIM... THE ***GREEN GOBLIN!***

BUT HE'S BEEN HIDING BEHIND HIS NEW PUBLIC RELATIONS CAMPAIGN, HIDING BEHIND HIS MONEY.

A TRAGEDY, WHICH, UNFORTUNATELY, WAS INEVITABLE.

IF ONLY PEOPLE HAD HEEDED YOUR WARNINGS LONG AGO, JONAH...

...PERHAPS THIS COULD HAVE BEEN AVOIDED.

I DO HOPE, JONAH, THAT THE BUGLE WILL BE THROWING EVERY RESOURCE IT HAS AT THIS STORY.

THIS TYPE OF RECKLESS VIGILANTISM CANNOT BE TOLERATED.

MIGHT I SUGGEST THAT YOU BEGIN WITH --

IF YOU DON'T MIND, NORMAN, I'LL HANDLE IT ***MY*** WAY

FOR NOW, I'M STILL THE PUBLISHER OF THE BUGLE.

YOU ARE INDEED, JONAH. I SIMPLY OWN HALF OF OUR ILLUSTRIOUS BASTION OF JOURNALISTIC INTEGRITY. RUN WITH THE STORY AS YOU SEE FIT.

IT JUST EATS ME UP INSIDE TO KNOW THAT SOMEONE LIKE SPIDER-MAN IS RUNNING FREE TONIGHT.

THAT AT THIS VERY MINUTE, WITHOUT HIS COSTUME TO HIDE BEHIND, HE COULD BE WALKING AMONGST US, UNDETECTED AND PLANNING HIS NEXT ASSAULT.

I JUST WANT YOUR ASSURANCE, JONAH, THAT YOU WILL DO ALL IN YOUR POWER TO ASSURE THAT SPIDER-MAN NEVER SHOWS HIS FACE IN THIS CITY AGAIN.

I KNOW THAT I CAN COUNT ON YOU, JONAH.

NORMAN'S GOT TO HAVE SOMETHING ON JONAH.

THE JONAH I KNOW WOULD ***NEVER*** TAKE HALF OF WHAT NORMAN'S BEEN THROWING AT HIM. AND HE WOULD HAVE ***NEVER*** FREELY GIVEN OVER HALF OF THE BUGLE.

NOT TO NORMAN OSBORN.

JONAH KNOWS.

WE ***ALL*** KNOW. AND YET WE ALL LET NORMAN LEAD US THROUGH HIS CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED GAME.

I'VE GOT ALL THE PICTURES I CAN GET, JONAH. I'LL DROP THEM OFF ON MY WAY HOME.

I WANT HIM BROUGHT IN, BOYS.

I'VE JUST GOTTEN WORD FROM THE MAYOR...

...THE APPREHENSION OF SPIDER-MAN IS NOW THE TOP PRIORITY OF THE NEW YORK CITY POLICE FORCE.

A SHORT TIME LATER...

IT'S NORMAN.

IT'S *GOT* TO BE.

WHO ELSE WOULD WANT TO SET SPIDER-MAN UP LIKE THIS?

SHOULD I START WITH THE SHORT LIST OF TWO DOZEN, OR JUST GO STRAIGHT TO THE FORTUNE FIVE-HUNDRED OF MOST WANTED SUPER-VILLAINS?

WHO AM I KIDDING? IT COULD BE *ANYONE!*

SPIDER-SENSE IS TINGLING.

ON TOP OF THE BUILDING! IT'S...

...THE *GREEN GOBLIN!*

FWAM

THAT'S *IT!*

WE'RE GOING TO FINISH THIS *TONIGHT,* NORMAN!

WHY COULDN'T HE JUST HAVE ***STAYED*** DEAD?

HE TOOK A GOBLIN GLIDER THROUGH HIS HEART, FOR CRYING OUT LOUD!

EVEN A VAMPIRE HAS THE DECENCY TO STAY DEAD AFTER THE EQUIVALENT.

AND HE'S WORSE THAN ANY VAMPIRE I'VE EVER RUN INTO.

HE SUCKS THE LIFE'S BLOOD FROM EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING HE'S EVER RUN INTO.

MY GIRLFRIEND GWEN, HIS OWN SON, HARRY...

...THE MADNESS HAS GOT TO END.

GOBLIN!

YOU WANTED ME!

I'M HERE!

GONE.

PLAYING HEAD GAMES.

I'M NOT GOING TO PLAY, GOBLIN!

KAWOOM!

NOT AGAIN, GOBLIN!

I WON'T PLAY ON *YOUR* TERMS!

NOT *AGAIN!*

FREEZE!

UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES I'D MAKE SOME COMMENT ABOUT THE WEATHER AND THE RELATIVE LACK OF INSULATING PROPERTIES OF SPANDEX, BUT...

...I'M *NOT* IN THE MOOD TONIGHT!

SHUT UP! AND KEEP YOUR HANDS IN THE AIR!

EASY, McDONALD.

WE'LL HANDLE THIS BY THE NUMBERS.

JUST LIKE THEY TAUGHT YOU IN THE ACADEMY.

JUST BECAUSE YOUR FIRST COLLAR IS WEARING A RED AND BLUE BODY SUIT IS NOTHING TO GET NERVOUS ABOUT.

SPIDEY, DO ME A FAVOR AND COOPERATE.

WE NEED TO TAKE YOU IN FOR QUESTIONING AND MY PARTNER HERE IS A ROOKIE.

A VERY SCARED ROOKIE FROM THE LOOKS OF THE WAY HIS GUN IS SHAKING.

AND I'VE GOT TO ADMIT I'M A LITTLE ANXIOUS MYSELF.

BEEN ON THE JOB FIFTEEN YEARS AND ONLY HAD TO FIRE MY WEAPON TWICE.

I'D RATHER ***NOT*** GO FOR NUMBER THREE.

I'M MIGHTY GLAD TO HEAR THAT, OFFICER, BUT YOU SEE THERE HAS BEEN A SERIOUS MISTAKE --

SHUT UP! WE DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT!

DROP TO THE GROUND ***NOW,*** OR...

HE'S GOING TO --

PTOOM

IN CIRCUMSTANCES LIKE THIS I THANK THE DAY I WAS BITTEN BY THAT LITTLE IRRADIATED ARACHNID.

...I BID YOU ADIEU!

I'M ASSUMING, OFFICERS, BY THE LEAD WHICH IS FILLING THE AIR, THAT WE ARE AT THE END OF THE ***NEGOTIATING*** PHASE OF OUR MEETING... SO...

EARLY THE NEXT MORNING AT THE DAILY GRIND COFFEE SHOP.

DO YOU THINK PEOPLE WILL REALLY BELIEVE YOU DID IT, PETER? AFTER ALL YOU'VE DONE FOR THIS CITY?

WHY NOT? REMEMBER HOW QUICKLY PEOPLE TURNED ON SPIDER-MAN WHEN THE KINGPIN FRAMED ME RECENTLY FOR MURDER?*

I WAS ABLE TO PROVE MY INNOCENCE THEN, BUT A SECOND TIME...

I'M NO CAPTAIN AMERICA, OR REED RICHARDS.

I COULD VERY EASILY SEE PEOPLE BELIEVING THAT SPIDER-MAN IS CAPABLE OF MURDER, BECAUSE THEY ***WANT*** TO BECAUSE THEY'VE BEEN CONDITIONED TO BELIEVE IT.

I JUST WISH I HAD MORE FOLKS LIKE SHIRLEY'S SON, DEVON, ON MY SIDE.

* SEE THE SPIDER-MAN/ KINGPIN ONE-SHOT, ON SALE NOW! – Hardsell Ralf.

I DON'T CARE WHAT THE PAPERS SAY, BUZZ! THERE IS NO WAY SPIDER-MAN DID IT!

I ***KNOW*** HIM, MAMA! HE WOULD NEVER!

UNFORTUNATELY, SON, HE DOES HIDE BEHIND A MASK. IT MAKES ONE WONDER...

SO WHAT'S THE PLAN?

PLAN? WHAT PLAN?

FOR CLEARING YOUR NAME AND FOR FINDING THE REAL KILLER.

I HAVE ***NO*** IDEA, MJ.

I'M NOT THE WORLD'S GREATEST DETECTIVE. I DON'T KNOW ***HOW*** TO PROVE IT WASN'T ME.

MAYBE YOU NEED SOME HELP, PETER. YOU KNOW JILL'S DAD IS A PRIVATE INVEST --

DON'T GO THERE.

WHAT THE --?

WHERE...

...ARE...

...YOU?!

PETER! WHAT'S WRONG? WHAT DID YOU SEE?

IT WAS HIM, MJ.

IT WAS NORMAN.

THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY TO DEAL WITH A MAN LIKE HIM.

THE EXECUTIVE OFFICES OF OSBORN INDUSTRIES...

A Mr. PETER PARKER IS HERE TO SEE YOU, Mr. OSBORN. HE IS NOT IN THE APPOINTMENT BOOK, SIR, BUT INSISTS THAT HE IS AN OLD FRIEND OF YOUR FAMILY.

HE IS INDEED.

SEND HIM RIGHT IN, LUCILLE.

ONE MILLION DOLLARS, PETER.

THAT IS QUITE A BOUNTY TO CARRY ON ONE'S HEAD... DON'T YOU THINK?

MY PEOPLE TELL ME THAT PUBLIC SENTIMENT REGARDING SPIDER-MAN WAS AT AN ALL-TIME LOW EVEN ***BEFORE*** THIS LATEST INCIDENT.

NOW... WITH THESE LATEST ACCUSATIONS SPLASHED ALL OVER THE HEADLINES...

DAILY

WHAT DO YOU ***WANT***, NORMAN?

HAVING TROUBLE KEEPING THAT TEMPER OF YOURS UNDER CONTROL, PETER?

CAN'T AFFORD TO LET LOOSE WITHOUT THE MASK TO HIDE BEHIND, CAN YOU?

WHAT DO YOU *WANT?*

THAT WHICH I'VE ALWAYS WANTED, PETER.

I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT THERE IS NOTHING YOU CAN DO TO STOP ME.

I WANT YOU ***RUINED***. I WANT YOUR FAMILY RUINED. AS YOU RUINED MY BOY... AND AS YOU RUINED MY GOOD NAME.

NOTHING ELSE WILL DO.

WE ARE DONE HERE, PARKER. YOU KNOW THE WAY OUT.

A SHORT TIME LATER...

LIGHTS OUT, ELEVATOR'S COME TO A STOP...HOW ***UN***ORIGINAL.

PREPARE YOURSELF, MEN.

ANYTHING COULD HAPPEN --

MISTER OSBORN --?

WE WEREN'T THROUGH, NORMAN!

AND I **DO** PREFER OUR CONVERSATIONS TAKE PLACE AWAY FROM THE PRYING EYES OF YOUR VIDEO CAMERAS.

HOPE YOU DON'T MIND THE COLD.

YOU *ARE* SO EASY, PARKER.

YOU ALMOST TAKE THE FUN OUT OF IT ALL.

ALL YOUR LITTLE BUTTONS JUST LIGHT RIGHT UP AND BEG TO BE PUSHED.

LOOK -- I'VE GONE AND MADE YOU ANGRY.

YOU WANT TO BEAT ME AGAIN, DON'T YOU? *KILL* ME PERHAPS?

YOU HAD TO HAVE TAKEN ***SOME*** SATISFACTION IN OUR LAST ENCOUNTER DESPITE THE PUBLIC RELATIONS COST.

YOU JUST MAKE IT ***SO*** EASY.

I AM A BUSY MAN, PETER. LET'S RUSH THIS ALONG TO ITS INEVITABLE CONCLUSION.

WITHOUT A WORTHY OPPONENT...

...LIFE IS SIMPLY NOT WORTH LIVING FOR A MAN LIKE ME.

AND ***YOU*** WERE NEVER A WORTHY OPPONENT...

GOOD-BYE, PETER.

No!

THWAP

THWP

SEE, PARKER! YOU *ARE* SO PREDICTABLE.

THIS IS WHY YOU WILL *NEVER* WIN!

I WOULD HAVE ALLOWED *YOU* TO FALL.

YOU ARE A BORN LOSER, PARKER. ALWAYS WERE.

I'M NOT GOING TO LET YOU *DIE* ON ME, NORMAN!

HE'S GOT Mr. OSBORN!

NO! NO MORE! NOT AGAIN! WHAT DO YOU *WANT* FROM ME?

PTOOM PTOOM

GREAT! COPS ARE ARRIVING JUST IN TIME TO SEE ME RUNNING AFTER *ANOTHER* ATTACK ON NORMAN. SPIDER-MAN IS FORCED TO SWING OFF INTO THE STORM.

WEEOOOOOOO

LOOK AT HIM DOWN THERE.

HAMMING IT UP FOR THE POLICE. I'M SURE THE MEDIA WON'T BE FAR BEHIND.

HE IS PLAYING ME LIKE A --

WHAT THE --?

THE GOBLIN!

BUT HOW? IF IT'S NOT NORMAN...

WHO?

SEVERAL HOURS LATER...

THWAP

I DIDN'T DO IT.

YOU HAVE YOUR POLICE LAB DO AN ANALYSIS OF THE SAMPLE YOU HAVE THERE...

...BEFORE IT DISSOLVES IN AN HOUR, AND COMPARE IT WITH THE DEAD MAN.

YOU'LL SEE.

LATER, AT THE HOME OF ARTHUR STACY.

HE IS THE OPERATOR OF AN INTERNATIONALLY RENOWNED PRIVATE INVESTIGATION FIRM.

HIS FAMILY HAS HAD DEALINGS WITH SPIDER-MAN IN THE PAST.

HIS BROTHER, CAPTAIN GEORGE STACY, AND HIS NIECE GWEN BOTH DIED UNDER SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES INVOLVING THE WEB-SLINGER.

STILL, ARTHUR BEARS NO MALICE TOWARD SPIDER-MAN.

HE'S NOT A MAN TO SEEK REVENGE, OR TO PLACE BLAME UNTIL HE HAS THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATED THE FACTS.

ALL HE SEEKS IS THE TRUTH.

A TRUTH WHICH LIES WITH A MAN BEHIND A MASK.

A TRUTH WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED TO HIM IN TIME.

THE TIME IS NOW.

THE MAN IS HERE.

I NEED YOUR HELP.

LET'S SEE WHAT WE CAN DO, YOUNG MAN. I'VE BEEN WANTING TO SPEAK TO YOU FOR SOME TIME.

THE END

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DeMATTEIS
ROSS
GREEN

THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN®

THIS IS GOING TO HURT!

Stan Lee presents: SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

AGES!!!

JOHN MARC DEMATTEIS STORY

TOM DEFALCO SCRIPT

LUKE ROSS PENCILS

DAN GREEN INKS

RS & COMICRAFT'S KIFF SCHOLL LETTERS

JOHN KALISZ COLORS

RALPH MACCHIO EDITOR

BOB HARRAS CHIEF

YOU FEEL ANXIOUS, NO?

A DISQUIETING, DISORIENTING SENSE OF DANGER?

A CURRENT OF FEAR AND DISPLACEMENT --

-- WHICH SLITHERS AND COILS LIKE WHITE NOISE AROUND YOUR CONSCIOUSNESS?

IT MAKES YOU WANT TO CRAWL OUT OF YOUR SKIN, NO?

IT IS A SENSATION I KNOW ALL TOO WELL.

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ALL OF US DO!

I AM PRESENTLY MANIPULATING YOUR BODY'S ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD TO ***AMPLIFY*** THAT FEELING.

TO THRUST IT THROUGH YOUR MIND LIKE A FLAMING DAGGER.

BUT YOU NEEDN'T BE OVERLY CONCERNED. MY PRINCIPAL DOESN'T WANT YOU ***DEAD,*** OR EVEN ***BROKEN.***

HE MERELY WISHES TO GAUGE THE ***LIMITS*** OF YOUR ENDURANCE --

-- BOTH **MENTAL** AND **PHYSICAL!**

HOW MANY OTHER SOULS ARE **SUFFERING** RIGHT NOW?

HAVE WE EVER KNOWN A **TIME** WHEN THE WORLD WAS IN THE GRIP OF SUCH A TERRIBLE **DISEASE?**

SUCH **HUNGER?**

SUCH **BRUTALITY** AND **DEPRAVITY?**

PERHAPS WE HAVE...

...BUT NEVER, I THINK, IN SUCH **EXTREMES!**

NOR HAVE WE EVER HAD SOCIETIES SO CAPABLE OF GIVING US THE ILLUSION OF COMFORT --

-- OF WEALTH AND SECURITY --

-- WHILE WE CONTINUE TO **STRUGGLE** AND **DIE** WITHIN OURSELVES.

YOU SEEM DISTURBED, MY OLD FRIEND.

DOES THE SUFFERING OF OUR TEST SUBJECT TOUCH SOMETHING WITHIN YOU?

HAVEN'T YOU LEARNED THAT THE ONLY WAY TO SURVIVE ***HELL*** IS TO BECOME THE ***DEVIL*** HIM-SELF?

I... KNOW YOU'RE ***RIGHT,*** Dr. ANGST, BUT I...

THERE ARE NO "**BUTS,**" MY BRUTISH DISCIPLE...

...THE ONLY REALITY IS LIFE **IN THE PIT!**

OUR TEST SUBJECT APPEARS TO BE STRUGGLING...

...ATTEMPTING, NO DOUBT, TO UNDERSTAND EXACTLY WHAT'S HAPPENING TO HIM.

I WONDER WHAT THOUGHTS, WHAT MEMORIES ARE DRIFTING THROUGH HIS MIND?

VERY ***STIRRING,*** PETER...

JONAH SHOWED ME THE PHOTOS YOU SHOT FOR THIS SUNDAY'S PIECE ON THE AIDS HOSPICE.

EMOTIONAL STUFF!

I NEARLY WEPT JUST LOOKING AT THEM.

YES... ***WELL...*** I KNOW HOW ***SENSITIVE*** YOU CAN BE, Mr. OSBORN.

AFTER ALL WE'VE BEEN THROUGH TOGETHER, PETER... YOU REALLY SHOULD CALL ME ***NORMAN.***

KIRKLAND'S PIZZA

THESE PICTURES ARE TRULY ***AMAZING,*** M'BOY. YOU MANAGED TO CAPTURE ***HOPE*** IN THE EYES OF THE HOPELESS.

THAT'S WHAT I'VE ALWAYS ADMIRED IN YOU...

...YOUR ABILITY TO FIND THE *GOOD* IN EVEN THE WORST SITUATIONS.

SOME WOULD CALL THIS TALENT NAIVE... OR EVEN FOOLISH.

NOT ME!

IF THAT'S ALL, NORMAN, I'VE REALLY GOT TO --

UNCLE PETE --!

NORMIE! WHAT ARE ***YOU*** DOING HERE?

GRAN'PA IS GONNA TEACH ME ALL ABOUT NEWS-PAPERS.

ISN'T HE GREAT, UNCLE PETE?

Oh, HE'S A REAL... *PRIZE!*

BY THE WAY, PETER... I ASSUME YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT THE BODY THE POLICE RECENTLY FOUND.*

A LOCAL MOBSTER WHOSE STREET NAME, I BELIEVE, WAS *JOEY Z.*

SEEMS HE WAS SUFFOCATED BY WHAT APPEARS TO BE... ***WEBBING.***

J.J. JAM

INTERESTING, NO?

IS NORMAN TAUNTING ME BECAUSE HE'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT MURDER, OR --?

*AS SHOWN IN **PETER PARKER** #88 – Curious Ralf.*

OUT OF MY WAY!

HEY, ROBBIE -- YOU *OKAY?*

SLAM

J.J. JAMESON

THIS MUST BE IT!

FINAL SHOWDOWN!

I NEVER THOUGHT ***JOE ROBERTSON*** WOULD EVER PULL THE TRIGGER!

CAN YOU BLAME HIM?

I HEARD ROBBIE TURNED IN HIS ***RESIGNATION*** OVER A WEEK AGO, BUT JAMESON SOMEHOW CONVINCED HIM TO THINK IT OVER.

LOT OF GOOD THAT DID!

J.J. JAMESON

ROBBIE IS...

...QUITTING?!

YOU PEOPLE STANDING AROUND FOR THE LATEST SCOOP?

OOOOKAY -- IT'S OFFICIAL!

I'M ***OUT*** OF HERE!

ROBBIE -- ***WAIT!***

THE ***DAILY BUGLE*** IS YOUR LIFE! YOUR HOME!

NOT ANYMORE, PETER. I'VE HAD ENOUGH! I WAS WILLING TO GIVE MY ALL WHILE I STILL RESPECTED ***JONAH***... WHEN THIS PAPER ***STOOD*** FOR SOMETHING!

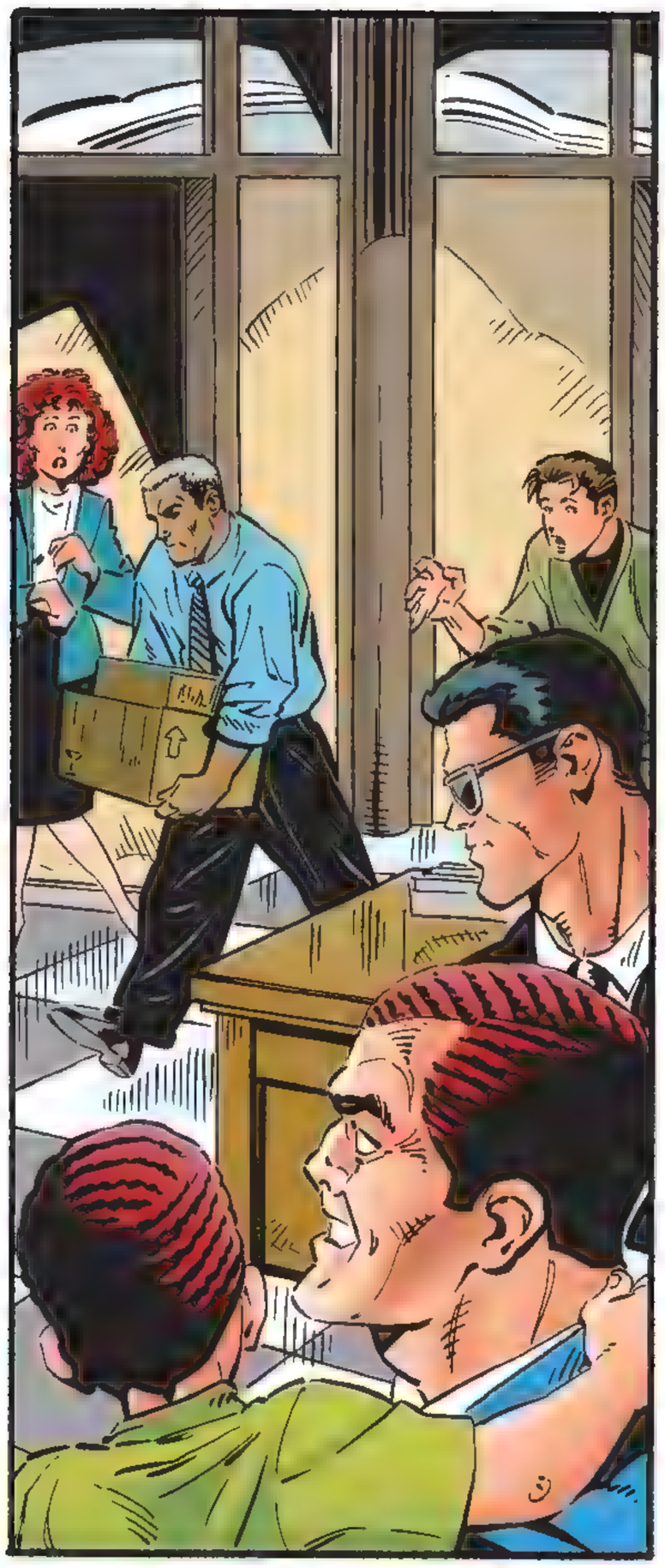
THAT CHANGED THE MOMENT ***NORMAN OSBORN*** STRUTTED IN HERE!

IT'LL CHANGE AGAIN! YOU HAVE TO GIVE IT TIME!

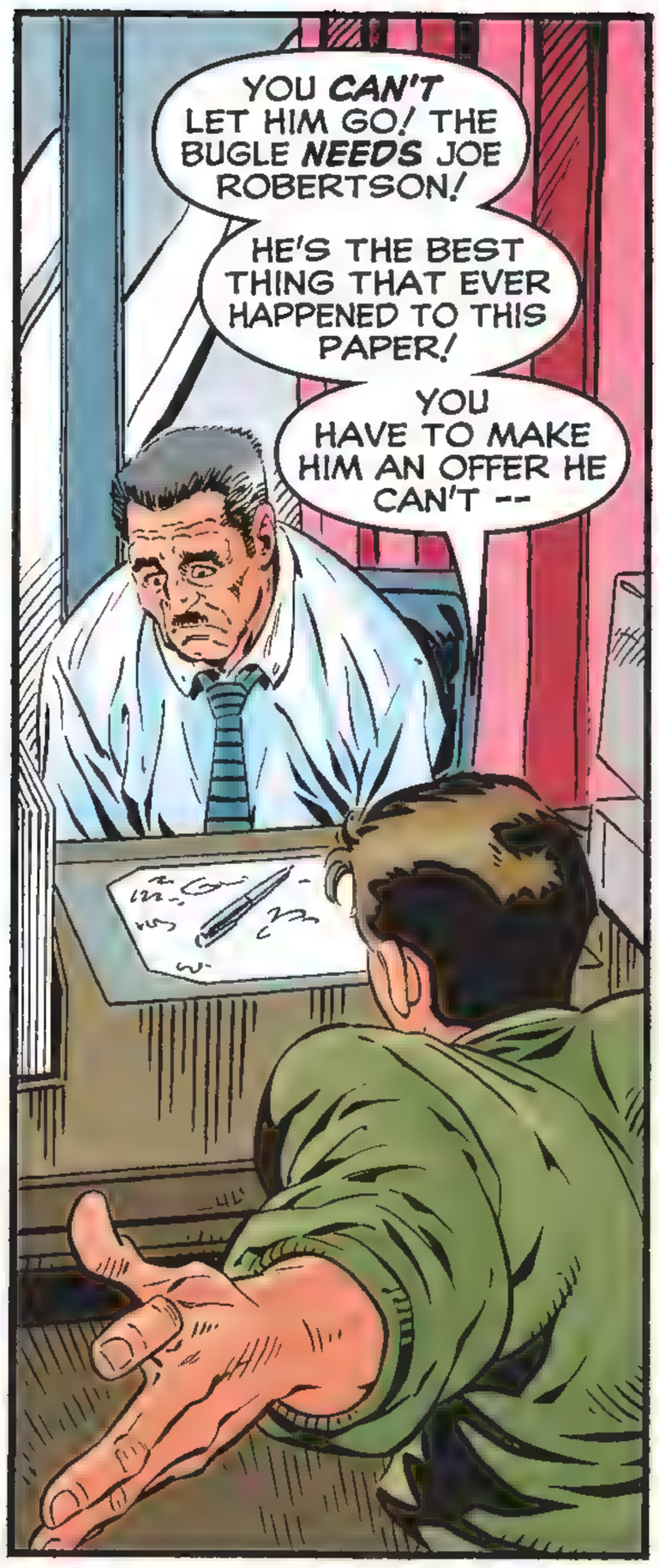
NO...

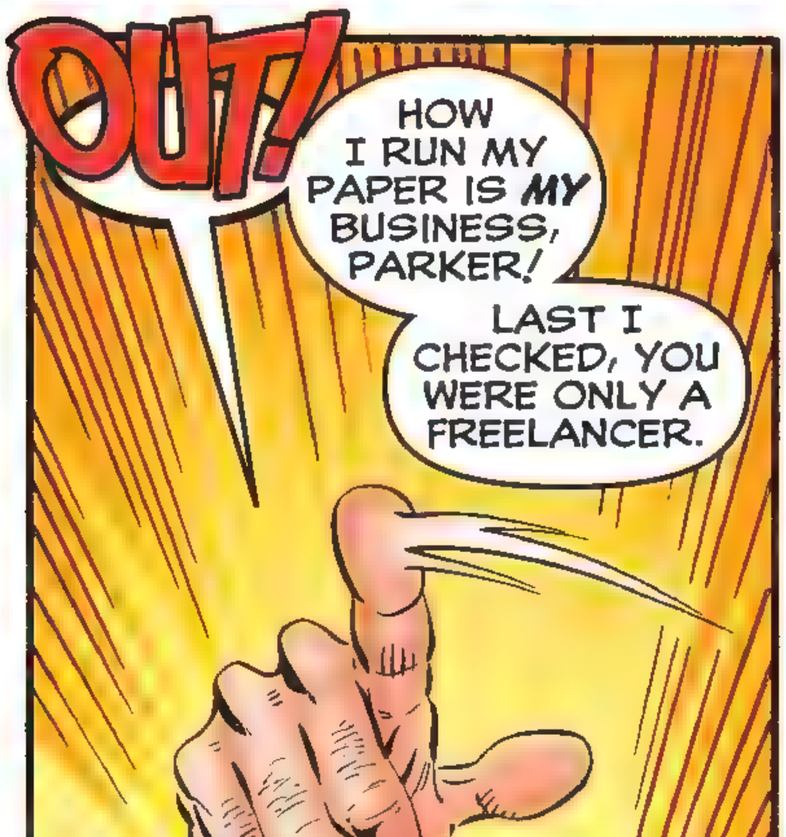
...I DON'T.

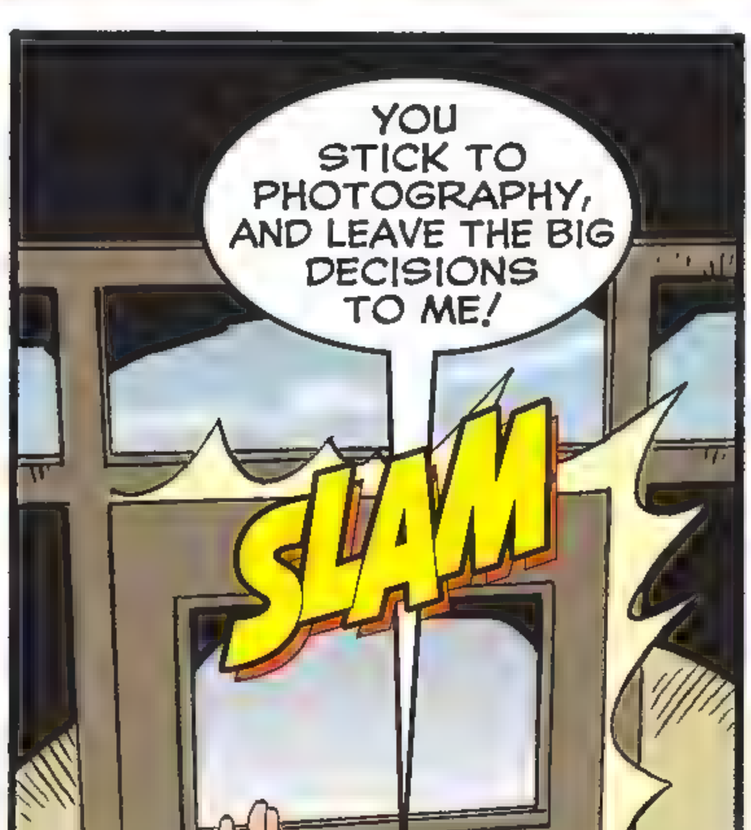
MY DECISION'S ***FINAL.***

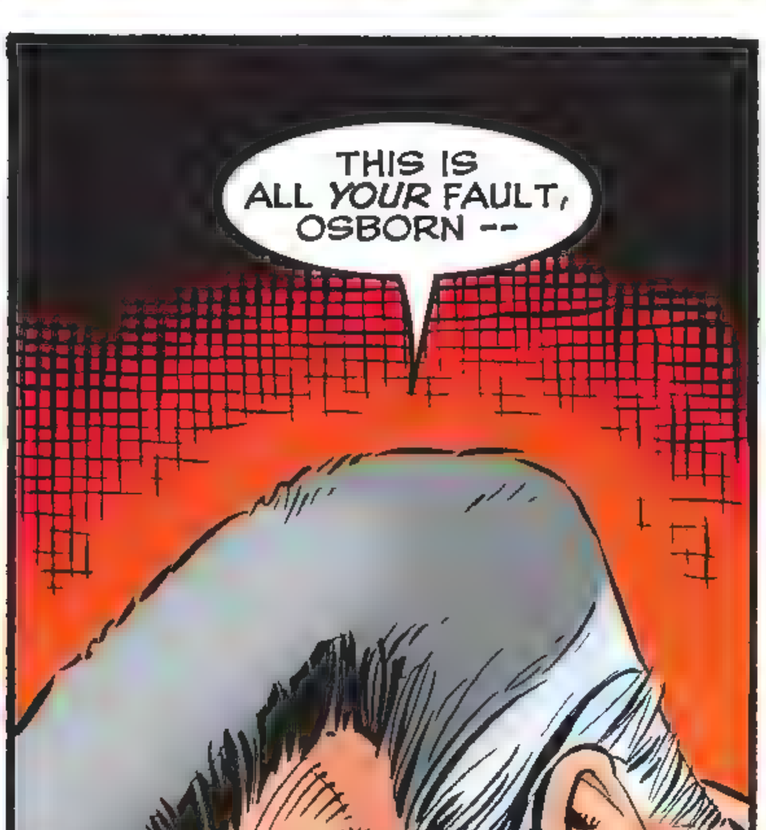


JONAH! WE NEED TO TALK!


YOU CAN'T LET HIM GO! THE BUGLE NEEDS JOE ROBERTSON!
HE'S THE BEST THING THAT EVER HAPPENED TO THIS PAPER!
YOU HAVE TO MAKE HIM AN OFFER HE CAN'T --


OUT!
HOW I RUN MY PAPER IS MY BUSINESS, PARKER!
LAST I CHECKED, YOU WERE ONLY A FREELANCER.


YOU STICK TO PHOTOGRAPHY, AND LEAVE THE BIG DECISIONS TO ME!
SLAM


THIS IS ALL YOUR FAULT, OSBORN --

-- BUT THE DAY IS *COMING* --

-- WHEN *JUSTICE* WILL BE SERVED!

MEMORY IS THE MOST POWERFUL WEAPON OF TORTURE.

EVERYONE IS BURDENED BY CERTAIN **MISTAKES**... **REGRETS**... OR **FAILURES.**

THEY'RE LIKE **GHOSTS** WHICH LIVE IN OUR HEADS --

-- AND CAN TORMENT US FAR **MORE** THAN ANY LIVING PERSON!

WHO... OR WHAT... HAUNTS **YOU,** SPIDER-MAN?

HE SUDDENLY SEES THEM -- WAITING AND ANXIOUS!

HIS BELOVED UNCLE BEN...

...**GWEN STACY,** THE FIRST WOMAN HE EVER TRULY LOVED...

...HER FATHER, **CAPTAIN GEORGE STACY**...

...**BEN REILLY,** THE CLOSEST HE EVER HAD TO A BROTHER --

-- AND A **BABY** WHOSE NAME HE CAN'T BEAR TO SAY.

THEIR EYES BLANK, THEIR MOUTHS SLACK -- THEY BEGIN TO WAIL IN PAIN --

-- IN TORMENT AND FURY --

-- AND THEIR CRIES RIP THROUGH HIM LIKE A DULL AND RUSTED KNIFE --

-- GNAWING AWAY AT HIS SOUL, BIT BY PRECIOUS BIT!

I... TRIED TO SAVE YOU... EVERY LAST ONE OF YOU!

BUT I WASN'T GOOD ENOUGH!

I... FAILED.

I FAILED YOU ALL!

VAGUE MEMORIES FLITTER LIKE GOSSAMER IN THE MIND OF ANGST'S DISCIPLE.

MEMORIES OF TORMENT AND TORTURE... NOT ALL THAT DISSIMILAR TO THIS ONE.

THE DISCIPLE IS CALLED SIR.

WITH THE MEMORIES COME A PROFOUND SENSE OF COMPASSION.

BUT SIR VIEWS SUCH EMOTIONS AS A SIGN OF WEAKNESS!

AND WEAKNESS IS TO BE DESPISED --

-- CONQUERED --

-- AND COMPLETELY OBLITERATED!

THIS ISN'T RIGHT, PETER.

THERE'S SO MUCH MORE TO THE *PAST* THAN MISERY.

THE PAST IS ALSO FULL OF *HOPE*... AND *JOY*... AND *LOVE*.

IT HELPED MAKE YOU INTO *WHO* YOU ARE TODAY!

IT IS THE SOURCE OF YOUR *STRENGTH*... YOUR *COURAGE* AND *SELFLESSNESS!*

YOU'VE ALWAYS TRIED YOUR VERY *BEST*, PETER... AND SO MUCH MORE!

YOU'VE GIVEN OF YOURSELF... IN WAYS FEW MEN WOULD EVER DARE!

YOU'RE *NOT* A FAILURE...

...YOU'RE A *HERO!*

ODD...

...ACCORDING TO THESE READINGS THE TEST SUBJECT IS... FEELING *CALM* AND AT *PEACE?!*

IMPOSSIBLE!

MY PRINCIPAL WILL BE **MOST** DISPLEASED.

YOU ASK ME, PARKER... I'D HAVE TO SAY NORMAN OSBORN'S A ***HERO!***

THE GUY PULLED US OUT OF THE ***RED***, AND BROUGHT A LOT OF PEOPLE BACK ON THE STAFF.

WITHOUT HIM, THE BUGLE MIGHT HAVE HAD TO DECLARE ***BANKRUPTCY*** -- AND YOU KNOW HOW ***THAT*** CAN DEVASTATE A COMPANY'S MORALE.

THAT MAY ALL BE TRUE, BUT --

SORRY TO INTERRUPT WHEN YOU'RE TALKING HIGH FINANCES, TIGER... BUT WE HAD A LUNCH DATE!

WE CERTAINLY DID, MARY JANE.

YOU ALL RIGHT, PETER? YOU LOOK A LITTLE DOWN.

I-IT'S... *THIS PLACE*... IT HASN'T BEEN THE SAME SINCE ***OSBORN*** CAME ABOARD.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORK HERE, YOU KNOW.

YEH, BUT THIS JOB ALLOWS ME TO KEEP A CLOSE EYE ON HIM.

NEED I POINT OUT --

"-- ***HE*** ALSO GETS TO WATCH ***YOU!***"

LET'S TRY TO FORGET OSBORN, AND ENJOY OUR LUNCH.

BY THE WAY, AM I CLEAR WITH ***AUNT ANNA*** YET?

WELL, AT LEAST SHE DOESN'T THINK YOU'RE HAVING AN ***AFFAIR*** ANY LONGER!

oOOOo! REMEMBER HOW MAD SHE GOT ME?
YOU REALLY LET HER HAVE IT!
I ACTUALLY TOLD HER YOU WERE SPIDER-MAN!
AND OF COURSE SHE DIDN'T BELIEVE IT!
WHY WOULD SHE?

IT SOUNDED SO ABSURD... THAT SHE REALIZED SHE WAS ACTING TOTALLY RIDICULOUS... AND APOLOGIZED ON THE SPOT!
I SWEAR, PETER, I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO HER LATELY.
HEY, BEN --!
PETER... MARY JANE...

SOMETHING BOTHERING YOU, MAN?
OSBORN WANTS A FACE-TO-FACE.
NOT YOU, TOO?
PROBABLY WANTS TO GIVE ME THE BOOT!
SOMEBODY ELSE GOT FIRED?

HAVEN'T YOU HEARD? ROBBIE'S GONE!
THAT'S NO SURPRISE! I KNOW HIS WIFE'S BEEN ON HIM TO MAKE A CHANGE, AND I CAN'T BLAME HER.
BUT I'LL GO DOWN FIGHTING!
I'M GIVING THAT MONSTER A PIECE OF MY MIND!

Uh, HON...
...CAN WE PUT LUNCH ON HOLD FOR THE NEXT FEW MINUTES?
NO PROB!
ROBBIE QUIT?!

YOU WANTED TO SEE ME, OSBORN?
I'M HERE, YOU MISERABLE SON OF A--
DO TAKE A SEAT, Mr. URICH --

-- AND I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU CURBED YOUR TONGUE!
Oh!
SORRY!

YOU OBVIOUSLY EXPECT SOME KIND OF ANGRY CONFRONTATION, BUT THAT'S NOT MY INTENTION.
THIS BOOK YOU WROTE, LEGACY OF EVIL -- WHICH ACCUSES ME OF BEING THE GREEN GOBLIN -- HAS CAUSED ME CONSIDERABLE GRIEF.

I'VE READ IT -- *A NUMBER OF TIMES* -- AND IT'S BASED ON *HEARSAY, INNUENDO* AND A *DISTORTION OF FACTS!*

THE KIND OF SENSATIONAL TRIPE YOU'D EXPECT IN A SUPERMARKET TABLOID... NEXT TO THE LATEST ***BIGFOOT*** SIGHTING.

A SEASONED REPORTER LIKE YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE PUBLISHED SUCH RUBBISH.

YOU'RE A VALUABLE MEMBER OF THE BUGLE FAMILY, BEN.

I DON'T WANT TO FIRE YOU --

-- AND I ***WON'T!***

YOU... ***WON'T?!***

NO.

FOR ALL THE HARM YOU HAVE CAUSED ME... AND MY FAMILY... I BELIEVE YOU WERE SINCERE IN YOUR EFFORTS TO EXPOSE THE ***GREEN GOBLIN!***

TOO BAD YOU TARGETED THE WRONG MAN!

THAT'S WHY I'D LIKE YOU TO TRY AGAIN!

I'M ENLISTING YOU TO ***TRACK DOWN*** AND ***UNMASK*** HIM!

I WANT YOU TO ***CLEAR*** MY NAME... AND PUT AN ***END*** TO THAT MANIAC!

HOW'D IT GO, BEN?

WHAT DID NORMAN SAY?

OSBORN

W-WE'LL TALK LATER, PETE.

I'LL SHARE WITH YOU, PETER. BEN IS GOING TO HELP ME NAIL THE TRUE ***GREEN GOBLIN.***

CONSIDERING YOUR RELATIONSHIP WITH ***SPIDER-MAN,*** YOU MAY WANT TO PITCH IN.

ORN

I WANT THE REAL ***GOBLIN*** BROUGHT TO JUSTICE --

-- AND THE OSBORN NAME ***EXONERATED!***

OSBORN

Ahhh... THE LOVELY Mrs. PARKER!

ALWAYS A *PLEASURE* TO SEE YOU, MY DEAR.

THAT *DEVIL* --

-- DESERVES AN *ACADEMY* AWARD --

-- FOR HIS PORTRAYAL OF A *HUMAN* BEING!

FEAR --

-- AS *SOMEONE ONCE NOTED* --

-- IS THE *MIND-KILLER!*

IT DESTROYS *PEACE.*

IT CONSUMES *LOVE.*

IT REDUCES MAN TO HIS NATURAL STATE -- *AN ANIMAL!*

WHAT IS IT THAT TERRIFIES YOU, SPIDER-MAN?

WHEN, IN YOUR ENTIRE LIFE, DID YOU EXPERIENCE AN OVERWHELMING FEAR --

SIR, IF YOU WILL PLEASE APPROACH THE SUBJECT --?

VERY GOOD!

WE SHALL NOW *INTENSIFY* THIS SESSION, NO?

-- THAT TRULY ECLIPSES ALL OTHERS?!

I'M SORRY, PETER.

SO VERY SORRY!

BUT I HAVE SOME... BAD NEWS...

GO AWAY!

I DON'T WANNA HEAR IT!

I...I JUST DON'T!

I'M SORRY, SON, BUT YOU MUST...

THERE'S BEEN A TERRIBLE ACCIDENT.

I'M AFRAID YOUR MOTHER AND FATHER ARE --

NO, UNCLE BEN --!

NO!

NO!

NOOO

WE APPEAR TO HAVE STRUCK A ***NERVE***, NO?

AN EARLY CHILDHOOD TRAUMA, UNLESS I'M MISTAKEN.

EXCELLENT!

DID I SAY SOMETHING TO UPSET YOU, SIR?

YOU WOULD BE WELL ADVISED TO ATTEND TO OUR SUBJECT BEFORE HE --

PTAH!

CAREFUL, SIR! CAREFUL!

HE MUSTN'T BE INJURED!

MY PRINCIPAL WAS QUITE ***CLEAR*** ABOUT THAT!

HE WANTS THE SUBJECT RETURNED IN PRISTINE CONDITION!

AND NOT EVEN I WOULD DARE DISAPPOINT *NORMAN OSBORN!*

JUST HOLD HIM WHILE I --

THERE!

THAT WAS RATHER DISRUPTIVE, NO?

NOW WE'LL HAVE TO REATTACH HIM --

-- TO THE ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELD AMPLIFIER --

-- BEFORE WE CAN RETURN TO WORK!

PETER! *PETER!* I HAVE MARINA'S CLASS LATER THIS AFTERNOON. CAN WE GO TO LUNCH NOW?

SURE, HONEY! I DON'T HAVE MUCH OF AN APPETITE ANYMORE, BUT I --

IS

SOMETHING

WRONG?!

OSBORN

MY *SPIDER-SENSE* JUST KICKED IN! *BIG TIME!*

I CAN FEEL INCREDIBLE *DANGER* COMING FROM WITHIN OSBORN'S OFFICE!

GO, MARY JANE --! GET OUTTA HERE!

B-BUT --!

JUST *GO!*

EITHER NORMAN'S SWITCHING INTO HIS *GOBLIN* GARB, OR --

"-- OR HE'S IN SERIOUS TROUBLE!"

STAY BACK!

I WON'T LET YOU HARM MY GRANDSON!

I SWUNG MYSELF IN FROM THE MEN'S ROOM WINDOW, SO THAT IT'LL LOOK LIKE I WAS WEB-SWINGING PAST THE BUILDING WHEN I HEARD THE RUCKUS!

YEAH, THAT WILL FOOL EVERYONE... *EXCEPT NORMAN!*

BASED ON THE WAY HIS BODYGUARDS ARE SPLATTERED ACROSS THE ROOM, I'M GUESSING THIS CHARACTER ISN'T HERE TO RENEW A BUGLE SUBSCRIPTION.

WHO'S THE NEW ***PLAYMATE,*** NORM?

DON'T KNOW!

WE HAVEN'T BEEN FORMALLY INTRODUCED.

Oh, GREAT! I MAINLY CAME TO PROTECT NORMIE -- BUT THE KID'S TERRIFIED OF ME!

*GRAN'PA! **GRAN'PA! SPIDER-MAN'S GONNA BEAT YOU UP!***

LOOK! THE WEBHEAD'S AFTER ***OSBORN,*** AGAIN -- AND HE'S BROUGHT ***REINFORCEMENTS!***

NO! I...I'M SURE SPIDER-MAN'S HERE TO HELP!

HEY, BOSS -- ARE EMPLOYEES ELIGIBLE TO COLLECT THAT ***REWARD*** YOU POSTED ON HIM?!

HARRUMFT NO...

"...BUT I'LL GIVE YOU AN EXTRA FIFTEEN MINUTES FOR LUNCH IF YOU NAIL THAT WEB-SWINGING WEASEL!"

I'VE GOTTA MOVE THIS FIGHT ***AWAY*** FROM NORMIE!

A SIMPLE BACKFLIP WILL TAKE US OUT THE WINDOW, AND -- ***Huh?!*** A ***HELICOPTER?!***

OF COURSE! THAT EXPLAINS ***HOW*** THIS CLOWN ENTERED NORMAN'S OFFICE --

-- BUT I'LL HAVE TO GO FOR A RIDE IF I WANT TO LEARN ***WHY!***

EVEN AS SPIDER-MAN CONTINUES TO DANGLE ABOVE THE CITY STREETS, AMBULANCES ARE CALLED FOR OSBORN'S UNCONSCIOUS BODYGUARDS...

YOU DON'T WANT AN AMBULANCE FOR YOURSELF, SIR?

NO... I'M FINE.

I WANT MY MEN TO GET THE BEST MEDICAL ASSISTANCE MONEY CAN BUY.

THEY WERE ALL INJURED WHILE DEFENDING MY GRANDSON.

THANK GOD LITTLE NORMIE'S SAFE!

IF ANYTHING HAD HAPPENED TO HIM --!

HEYYY! I KNOW YOU --!

NAME'S SIR, RIGHT?

YOU FOUGHT MY OL' BUD DAREDEVIL A FEW MONTHS BACK!

SEE DAREDEVIL #364 -- Ralf

AS I REMEMBER IT... YOU WERE A LONER... WITH SEVERE PSYCHOLOGICAL ISSUES.

WEREN'T YOU INCARCERATED IN *RAVENCROFT?*

NICE TO SEE YOU'RE MOVING UP IN THE WORLD! *HELICOPTERS* DON'T COME CHEAP!

IT'S OBVIOUS THAT YOU'RE HANGING OUT WITH A BETTER CLASS OF ›URKK‹

WAS IT SOMETHING I SAID?

EXCUSSSSE ME!

BUT SOMEBODY'S GOTTA KEEP THIS CONVERSATION ALIVE!

SURPRISED BY THE UNEXPECTED BLOW, SIR MOMENTARILY LOSES CONSCIOUSNESS...

...BUT SPIDER-MAN INSTINCTIVELY CATCHES HIS MASSIVE OPPONENT, AND THEN...

SHEESH!< THAT'S GRATITUDE FOR YOU! I SAVE YOUR LIFE, AND YOU THANK ME BY RUNNING AWAY.

NOT THAT I'M COMPLAINING, MIND YOU!

I HOPE YOU DON'T THINK YOU CAN OUTRUN MY HANDY DANDY *WEBBING* --!

THWIP

AW... COME ON! AREN'T YOU TAKING THIS STRONG AND SILENT IMAGE TO EXTREMES?

IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, I'D SAY YOU WERE PRACTICALLY DARING ME TO FOLLOW!

ALWAYS HAPPY TO OBLIGE! WHY DON'T YOU WARM UP THE CAPPUCCINO MACHINE WHILE I SCAMPER UP THIS LADDER, AND -- *Uh-Oh!*

METAL TENTACLES ARE DROPPING FROM THE 'COPTER!

AND MY *SPIDER-SENSE* IS WARNING ME THAT THEY --

ARRGH!

KAZAK

IT'S BEEN A LONG AND EVENTFUL DAY.

PERHAPS WE SHOULD END OUR EXPERIMENT FOR NOW.

AFTER THIS INJECTION, WE SHALL RELEASE THE SUBJECT BACK INTO THE WORLD --

-- AND HE WILL HAVE ABSOLUTELY NO ***MEMORY*** OF WHAT TRANSPIRED HERE.

BUT THERE WILL BE OTHER EXPERIMENTS IN THE FUTURE.

MORE COMPLEX.

MORE... *INTERESTING.*

TODAY WAS JUST THE START OF A MOST BEAUTIFUL RELATIONSHIP, AND *JERK!*

I'M

NOT

A

LAB

RAT!

FASCINATING!

*AFTER ALL HE'S EXPERIENCED, THIS SUBJECT SHOULDN'T BE CAPABLE OF **SPEECH** AT THIS STAGE...*

*...LET ALONE **MOVEMENT!***

HIS WILL -- AND ENDURANCE -- ARE FAR BEYOND EXCEPTIONAL!

NO WONDER MY PRINCIPAL IS SO FASCINATED BY HIM.

DESPITE HIS FEARS, HIS PAIN, HIS INSECURITIES -- HE CONTINUES TO STRUGGLE!

I ALMOST WISH I COULD SPARE HIM FURTHER SUFFERING.

NOW, SIR... CRUSH HIM!

SIR HEARS THE DESPERATION IN HIS VOICE --

-- AND VIEWS IT AS A SIGN OF WEAKNESS!

YOU LITTLE TIN GODS ALWAYS MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE.

YOU FORGET THAT PEOPLE ARE MORE THAN *AUTOMATIC RESPONSES* AND *INSTINCTIVE REACTIONS!*

WE'RE *HEARTS* --

-- AND *SOULS!*

THERE ARE PARTS OF US WHICH CAN NEVER BE ***VIOLATED*** NO MATTER HOW BADLY YOU MESS WITH OUR ***MINDS!***

WHOEVER YOU ARE, YOU'LL ***ANSWER*** FOR WHAT YOU TRIED TO DO TO ME!

I ***SWEAR YOU WILL!***

WHAT'S ***WRONG*** WITH YOU, SIR?

WHY DON'T YOU ***STOP*** HIM?

OBEY ME, YOU IDIOT! STOP HIM NOW, BEFORE I --

-- SIR?!

WH-WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

KILLING ME IS *NOT* IN YOUR PSYCHOLOGICAL PROFILE.

YOU COULD TAKE ME TO THE *POLICE*... BUT I SINCERELY DOUBT THEY'LL BELIEVE A *MASKED VIGILANTE*... WITH A *PRICE* ON HIS HEAD.

YOU TELL ***OSBORN*** THAT THIS GAME CAN'T GO ON.

I'M GOING TO TAKE HIM DOWN IF IT ***KILLS*** ME.

AND HERE'S A PROMISE FROM ME TO YOU --

-- ***WHEN HE TAKES THE BIG FALL*** --

"--- SO WILL *YOU!*"

HOT-HEADED YOUNG MAN...

...*ISN'T HE*, DOCTOR ANGST?

HE ISN'T THE ONE WHO FRIGHTENS ME, NO?

SOMETHING IN HIS TENACIOUS SPIRIT -- HIS REFUSAL TO LOSE HOPE IN A TRULY HOPELESS SITUATION -- HAS OBVIOUSLY TOUCHED MY FORMER DISCIPLE.

PROFOUNDLY!

BUT, UNLIKE **SPIDER-MAN** --

-- *SIR HAS NO CODE AGAINST KILLING!*

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BENNETT
MILGROM

THE SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN®

A DOUBLE-SIZED BLOCKBUSTER!

SPIDERHUNT PART 1

Prelude to the Dance:

A NOWHERE PLACE.

RECORDER ON.

ALL PROCEEDS APACE. THE SUBJECT DISPLAYS NO ADVERSE REACTIONS TO THE PROGRAM, SAVE FOR A SLIGHT AND SPORADIC TREMOR IN THE LOWER ***FRONTALIS.***

POSITIVE NEURAL RESPONSE TO THE SYSTEMATIC ***ADRENAL*** INCREMENTS.

ANTICIPATED SIGNS OF EPIDERMAL ***RESILATION*** NOW APPARENT.

YES, MY FRIEND, I'M QUITE CONFIDENT THAT THIS ***FINAL TREATMENT*** SHALL INSURE THE ***DESIRED RESULTS...***

...GIVE YOU THE CAPABILITIES ***NECESSARY...***

...TO BECOME...

...***HIM***...

...AGAIN!

The Music Starts...

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The Fluttering Wings of Anxious Apprehension...

THE MANHATTAN MARRIOT.

ANNIE? SLOW *DOWN*, HONEY... WHAT'S THE *RUSH?*

GREG, YOU *KNOW* I'M NOT VERY... COMFORTABLE WITH THIS. WHY, THE VERY *IDEA* OF IT ALL... IT SCARES ME. Oh, DEAR... I...

...I JUST WISH IT COULD ALL BE *OVER WITH* ALREADY, THAT'S ALL.

ANN, WHEN I DESIGNED THESE *CYBERNETIC COSTUMES*, IT WAS WITH THE IDEA THAT WE WOULD BE ABLE TO MAKE ENOUGH MONEY TO *RETIRE*...

...BUY THAT *HOUSE* UP IN St. REMY, LIVE THE *QUIET LIFE*...

...AND *THAT'S* WHAT WE'RE *DOING!* MAYBE IN A MORE *ROUNDABOUT WAY*, BUT --

I JUST WANT YOU TO PROMISE ME THAT ONCE WE DO THIS WE CAN GO BACK TO BEING JUST PLAIN OLD GREG AND ANN HERD, AND THAT WE CAN SAY GOODBYE TO --

-OVERRIDE AND AURA!

BELIEVE ME, HONEY -- WHEN THIS IS OVER, WE WON'T NEED *ANYTHING ELSE!*

DAILY BUGLE
NEW YORK'S FINEST DAILY NEWSPAPER
GLE BOOSTS OUNTY TO 5 MILLION

* LAST SEEN IN THE **SPECTACULAR...** Uh... **SCARLET SPIDER #1** -- -- Don't-go-there. Ralf.

The Couples Come Together...

...Yearning to Know their Partner...

...IN ***HERE,*** GENTLEMEN. YOUR '***TOOLS***' ARRIVED TWO DAYS AGO VIA SPECIAL COURIER.

Mr. CRIER SAW TO IT THAT EVERYTHING WAS TAKEN CARE OF. HE APPRECIATES THE VALUE OF ***SECRECY*** IN THIS BUSINESS.

AND WHILE I, TOO UNDERSTAND THE NEED FOR ***ANONYMITY***, I CAN'T HELP BUT ASK... ARE YOU NOT THE INFAMOUS ***DEALY BOYS*** FROM DALLAS?

MAYBE.

...They Venture a Touch...

Oh. ***LASER SIGHTS..?***

FWOOMM

...A Hesitant Caress...

FWAZZZK

SOMETHIN' LIKE THAT.

Er... YES, WELL, IF YOU'LL JUST SIGN THE RELEASE FORM, THEN YOU CAN BE ABOUT YOUR ***BUSINESS.***

Triple Threat

...The Dance...

...Begins!

WELCOME TO MY LIFE...

...MY NUTTY, CRAZY, INSANE, LUNATIC, OUT-OF-HAND LIFE!

IT WAS JUST THIS MORNING THAT I WOKE UP AS **PETER PARKER**, MILD-MANNERED FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER FOR THE NEW YORK **DAILY BUGLE**... HUSBAND, STUDENT, NOBODY TRYING TO **KILL** ME --

-- EVERYTHING WAS **JAKE!**

BUT NO SOONER DO I PUT ON MY **RED-AND-BLUES** AND **THWIP** OUT MY FIRST **WEB-LINE** --

-- BOOM! I'VE GOT ANYONE WITH A WEAPON AND TWO BRAIN CELLS TO RUB TOGETHER WORKING THEIR BUTTS OFF TRYING TO MAKE MY **FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS!**

WELL, IT'S TIME THESE OVERENTHUSIASTIC **MOUTH-BREATHERS** REALIZED THAT THIS SUDDENLY **NOT-SO**-FRIENDLY **NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN** IS, IN FACT, **ALIVE** --

Stan Lee Presents: The SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN!

INTO THE DANCE!

SPIDER-HUNT
Part One

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JOE BENNETT *Pencils*

AL MILGROM & DAN GREEN *Inks*

RS & COMICRAFT'S KIFF SCHOLL *Letters*

GREGORY WRIGHT & MARK BERNARDO *Colors*

RALPH MACCHIO *Editor*

BOB HARRAS *Chief*

'M GONNA GIVE YA ENOUGH VOLTS T' --

KRAKT

TWO...

WHIP WHIP WHIP

FOUR AND FIVE...

THWIP

THWIP

TUMP

THREE...

Hunh?

THWAP

THWAP

THWAP

AAHHH!

SPIDER-SENSE HAS BEEN HELPING ME OUT, GUIDING ME THROUGH THIS MAZE OF IDIOTS...

...BUT NOW THAT I'VE TAKEN MOST OF THEM OUT --

-- THOSE KIDS WATCHING AT THE WINDOW?! GOTTA TELL THEM TO GET INSIDE, GET DOW--

-- BEHIND ME!

AND SUDDENLY, IT'S ONE OF THOSE INSTANCES WHERE EVERYTHING SEEMS... TO SLIDE... INTO SLOW... MOTION...

I CAN SEE IT ALL... THE SWEAT ON HIS FOREHEAD, THE QUIVER IN HIS WRIST. HIS FINGER TREMBLING ON THE TRIGGER... A HESITANT CARESS...

...IN HIS MIND, HE'S ALREADY COUNTING THE BOUNTY MONEY...

BEHIND ME, THE KIDS. IN THE LINE OF FIRE. IF I MOVE, THEY'RE DEAD... HAVE TO KEEP MYSELF BETWEEN THEM...

HAVE TO USE MY SPEED, AGILITY --

-- AND WEB-FLUID!

THWIP

THWIP

GAAAAHH!

THWAP

SLAM

SKRRIPT

NO, MAN -- DON'T!

PLEASE, MAN! GET THAT STUFF OFF ME! DON'T KILL ME! I DON' WANNA DIE LIKE THAT OTHER GUY!

OTHER GUY?!

THE ONE YOU KILLED...

...SMOTHERED! PAPER SAID... YOU FILLED HIS LUNGS WITH THAT WEB STUFF! PLEASE, MAN...

AND NOW THEY THINK I'M A KILLER...

AND THERE'S NOTHING I CAN DO ABOUT IT. WHAT, AM I GONNA TELL THIS GUY THAT I DIDN'T DO IT, THAT I'VE BEEN FRAMED...

...THAT THE GREEN GOBLIN HIRED THE TRAPSTER TO SET ME UP..?

SEE PETER PARKER: SPIDER-MAN#88 -- "WHO DID JOEY Z? -- RALF Z.

DON'T PUT THESE ON FOR AN HOUR...

...AND DON'T BELIEVE EVERYTHING YOU READ.

JERKS!... GREED MAKES PEOPLE DO CRAZY THINGS...

...AND SO DOES NORMAN OSBORN.

DAILY BUGLE

YEAH, SURE. THAT'S FINE.

Mr. JAMESON APPROVED THE HEADLINE, Mr. OSBORN! SHOULD I TAKE IT TO PRESS?

SPIDERHUNT

NORMAN OSBORN IS ALSO THE GREEN GOBLIN -- EASILY SPIDER-MAN'S MOST DEADLY FOE --

...AND PETER PARKER'S! KNOWING MY SECRET IDENTITY, HE'S TAKEN OVER THE PAPER WHERE I WORK -- DOING EVERYTHING HE CAN TO SYSTEMATICALLY DESTROY EVERY ASPECT OF MY LIFE!

MANIPULATING EVERYONE AROUND ME...

...INCLUDING THE BOSS, J. JONAH JAMESON. USUALLY, JONAH WOULDN'T LET ANYONE GET ANYWHERE NEAR TELLING HIM WHAT TO DO WITH HIS BUGLE...

...BUT SOMEHOW, OSBORN...

PETE, DUDE -- SORRY I'M LATE, MAN... I HAD A BAD RIDE IN!

TELL ME ABOUT IT!

BILLY WALTERS, FREELANCE REPORTER AND MY SOMETIME PARTNER, WE --

WHAT TH --?! IS THAT --

-- FLASH?!

Huh?

HEY, *PETER!* I WAS *HOPING* I'D RUN INTO YOU! I CAN'T REALLY TALK RIGHT *NOW,* I'M IN THE MIDDLE OF DOING SOME *RESEARCH* FOR Mr. OSBORN...

BUT MAYBE WE CAN GET TOGETHER *LATER,* THOUGH, Huh? DO THE *LUNCH THING..?*

Uh... YEAH, FLASH... SURE.

DUDE, YOU *KNOW* HIM? THAT'S OSBORN'S NEW *BOY!*

WHAT'S HIS NAME...? *FLASH...?* WHAT'S HE *RUN* FAST'R SOMETHIN'..?

MORNING, GUYS.

HEY, *BETTY!* WHAT'S GOING *ON?* WHAT'S *FLASH* DOING FOR *OSBORN?*

WELL, *APPARENTLY,* Mr. OSBORN WAS SO *IMPRESSED* WITH HOW FLASH HANDLED HIS DRINKING PROBLEM -- FIRST *ACCEPTING* THAT HE HAD A PROBLEM AND THEN GETTING HELP FOR IT --

-- NORMAN *HIRED* FLASH AS HIS *PERSONAL ASSISTANT!* HE SAID THAT HE ADMIRES FLASH AS A SURVIVOR, HIS ABILITY TO KEEP *COMING BACK* NO MATTER *WHAT'S* THROWN AT HIM!

AND Y'KNOW SOMETHING, PETER -- AFTER EVERYTHING THAT HE'S ***BEEN THROUGH***...

...***I'M*** KIND OF IMPRESSED ***MYSELF!***

Mm, Oh YEAH. Uh... ME, TOO...

BUT WHAT'S OSBORN REALLY UP TO... WHAT LITTLE GAMES DOES HE HAVE IN MIND FOR FLASH..?

OR IS HE JUST TRYING TO KEEP MESSING WITH MY HEAD..?

FLASH! GOOD TO SEE YOU, SON! COME IN, COME IN!

I HAVE THE REPORTS HERE FROM LEGAL ON THE ***SPIDER-MAN BOUNTY,*** Mr. OSBORN.

EXCELLENT, M' BOY --

-- EXCELLENT.

WHAT ARE YOU PLAYING AT, YOU GRINNING GARGOYLE?

YOU'RE TOXIC, OSBORN --

YOUR INFLUENCE IS POISON -- TAINTING EVERYTHING YOU TOUCH --

DESTROYING EVERYTHING AROUND YOU --

Hmmph.

huhh.

-- AND EVERYONE...

-- SOMETHING BAD'S GOING DOWN!

GRAB YER GEAR, PETE --

SHORTLY --

WHOA!

YOU'D THINK THAT FOR SOMEONE WHO USES THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE SO ELOQUENTLY IN ALL HIS NEWS ARTICLES, BILLY'D MAKE BETTER USE OF IT VERBALLY --

-- AND YET I CAN'T SAY THAT HIS ONE WORD SUMMATION DOESN'T NAIL THAT SCENE PERFECTLY!

THE **NYFD** WAS ABLE TO EVACUATE **EVERYBODY** -- THIS **LADY** WAS THE **LAST** -- WHEN THE BUILDING **COLLAPSED... ON TOP OF THE LADDER TRUCK!**

NOW, THE **FIRE** IS **SPREADING**, THE **FLAMES** ARE **CLIMBING** UP THE LADDER, AND SHE'S GOT NO MORE **'UP'** TO GO!

MAN, SHE IS SO **SCREWED!** THERE'S NO **WAY** ANYBODY COULD GET TO HER IN TIME!

YA THINK?

HELP! HELP!

DON'T WORRY, LADY -- I DO THIS SORTA THING *ALL THE TIME!*

JUST GIVE ME YOUR *HAND* AND I'LL --

NO! *NO!* STAY *AWAY FROM ME!* STAY AWAY!

?

NO, WAIT, LADY, I --

-- DON'T --

Huh?!

DON'T KILL ME!

AAAEEE!

THANK YOU, OSBORN, YOU MISERAB --

Oh, YOU'VE GOTTA BE KIDDING ME..!

I'M BUSY SAVING THIS... **RELUCTANT** VICTIM, AND THIS CAT IS GONNA START TAKING **POT-SHOTS** AT ME..?!

POW

Urk! HEY, LADY -- ***STOP TWISTING!***

NO!

I GOT YOUR BACK, BUDDY!

DON'T LET GO! YOU'RE GONNA --

AAAAHHH!

HO-...Uh... ***PROWLER!***

WHAT ARE YOU --

I ***OWE*** YOU, MAN! ***BIG!*** FIGURED I'D ***STOP BY*** AND GIVE YOU A ***HAND!*** SO, WHY DON'T YOU LET ***ME*** DEAL WITH 'SCREAM-Y' HERE -- -- AND ***YOU*** TAKE CARE OF THE ***GUY*** WITH THE ***GUN!***

MAN, THAT'S THE FIRST GOOD THING THAT'S HAPPENED TO ME IN, LIKE... FOREVER..!

AND HOBIE'S THE BEST! HE THINKS HE OWES ME BECAUSE I HELPED HIM GET HIS COSTUME BACK WHEN HE WAS LAID UP A COUPLE OF MONTHS AGO --*

*SEE SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN #16 & 17.-- RALF

-- BUT AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED, HE'S PAID UP IN FULL!

SWAK SWAK

AND SO'S THIS GUY!

ADD A LITTLE WEBBING TO KEEP HIM FROM GETTING IN ANY MORE TROUBLE, AND --

THWIP THWIP

SPUT SPIT

Huh? I SHOULDN'T BE OUT OF --

THAT TAKES CARE OF HIS WEBBING, HONEY --

SHAAM

-- NOW HIT HIM WITH *EVERYTHING YOU'VE GOT!*

NOT A PROBLEM, DEAR -- NOW THAT YOU'VE USED *YOUR* POWER TO *'OVERRIDE'* HIS LITTLE *WEB GUNS* --

-- HE'S A *SITTING DUCK* FOR MY *PROJECTED FORCE FIELD.*

I DON'T KNOW *WHO* YOU PEOPLE ARE --

-- BUT YOU PICKED THE *WRONG DAY* AND THE *WRONG SPIDER-MAN..!*

THAT GUN WON'T DO YOU ANY GOOD, KILLER -- I CAN OVERRIDE THE FIRING MECHANISM IN ANY --

THAT'S *IF* I'M GONNA USE IT AS A *GUN,* EINSTEIN...

...INSTEAD OF A *DISTRACTION!*

AWD

KUNK

UNGH!

LANDED RIGHT -- NOW IF ONLY I CAN PLAY IT RIGHT..!

SO TELL ME, *'BABE'*... ARE YOU READY TO CALL IT *QUITS?*

NOT UNTIL YOU TRY A PIECE OF *THIS!*

THANK YOU.

AURA, NO!

NOW, WHILE HER GUARD IS DOWN --

WONK

WOW! THAT WAS FAST!

SPIDER-SENSE! WHAT'S --

Huh?!

PWNGGG

Oh, FOR THE LUVVA --

THAT'S IT! I'M OUTTA HERE!

SORRY, AURA -- I JUST REMEMBERED THAT I'M LATE FOR A *PREVIOUS ENGAGEMENT*...

...WITH SOMEONE WHO'S *NOT* TRYING TO *KILL ME!*

YA *GET* 'IM?

YUP. NAILED HIS LEFT *FOOT* WITH THE *SONAR TAG*...

...WHEN THE TIME COMES --

"...WE'LL KNOW *RIGHT* WHERE T' *FIND HIM.*"

...WHAT ELSE *CAN* YOU DO, PETER? YOU'D HAVE TO BE *INSANE* TO EVEN PUT THE COSTUME ON AGAIN ANYTIME *SOON!*

I MEAN, FROM WHAT YOU'RE TELLING ME, THESE *BOUNTY HUNTERS* ARE SO... *RABID,* THAT JUST *SHOWING UP* AS SPIDEY IS PUTTING PEOPLE IN DANGER! MAYBE...

...MAYBE IT *IS* TIME FOR SPIDER-MAN TO... *RETIRE...*

BUT, MARY JANE, YOU *KNOW* THAT I CAN'T JUST *QUIT* -- I WAS *GIVEN* THESE POWERS FOR A *REASON* --

HEY, TIGER -- I *KNOW.* I *KNOW* YOU. I AM YOU *WIFE,* AFTER ALL...

...AND I KNOW *MORE THAN ANYTHING* ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS OF RESPONSIBILITY; I FEEL IT, TOO! BUT NOW, THAT RESPONSIBILITY IS TAKING A *DIFFERENT FORM...*

...AND BECOMING SPIDER-MAN *COULD* MEAN THAT *INNOCENT PEOPLE* MIGHT *GET HURT.*

MJ, IF *I* QUIT -- -- *HE* WINS.

HE ONLY ***WINS*** IF YOU ***LET HIM!*** HE --

MARY JANE! HE'S ***WORMED*** HIS WAY INTO ***EVERY ASPECT*** OF OUR LIVES LIKE HE WAS SOME KIND OF ***CANCER!*** AND I'M ***SICK OF IT!***

I WON'T ***BEND*** FOR OSBORN ***ANYMORE!*** I'M NOT GONNA LET HIM TAKE ***AWAY*** ANY MORE OF MY ***LIFE!***... ANY MORE OF ***US!***

US?! PETER, SOMETIMES I THINK ***SPIDER-MAN*** HAS BECOME A BIGGER PART OF OUR MARRIAGE THAN ***WE*** ARE! I --

-- WHERE ARE YOU ***GOING?***

I'M SORRY, HONEY -- I'M NOT MAD AT ***YOU,*** I'M JUST... ***FRUSTRATED!***

I'VE GOTTA... ***GET OUT...*** TAKE A ***WALK...***

I'LL BE BACK ***LATER.***

SLAM

GREAT! NOW WE'RE ***BOTH*** ANGRY AND FRUSTRATED!... AND ***ALONE!*** AND PETER'S ***RIGHT!***

HE'S NOT THE ***ONLY ONE*** WHO'S SICK AND TIRED OF NORMAN OSBORN ***CRAWLING AROUND*** AT THE ***EDGES*** OF OUR LIVES... ***DESTROYING*** OUR CHANCES AT ***HAPPINESS!*** AND IF IT'S NOT ***HIM...***

SWAK

...THEN IT'S ALWAYS ***SOMEBODY ELSE!***

THE ESTATE OF **NORMAN OSBORN,** INDUSTRIAL MAGNATE (AND MANIPULATIVE CUR) --

...ALL I'M ***SAYING,*** MY DEAR, IS THAT I FEEL IT WOULD BE IN YOUR ***BEST INTEREST*** FOR YOU AND LITTLE NORMAN TO ***MOVE IN HERE*** WITH ME.

-- WHERE **LIZ ALLAN OSBORN** IS ENGAGED IN A **LESS-THAN-AMIABLE** DISCUSSION WITH HER... **INTRACTABLE** FATHER-IN-LAW.

AND ALL I'M SAYING IS, ***'NO!'***

YOU TOUT YOUR ***BODY GUARDS*** AND ***SECURITY SYSTEMS*** AND ***SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS,*** AND YOU SAY WE'LL BE ***SAFER*** HERE --

-- BUT, NORMAN, THOSE ARE EXACTLY THE ***SAME REASONS*** WHY WE ***SHOULDN'T*** STAY!

I DON'T WANT NORMIE GROWING UP IN A WORLD WHERE HE BELIEVES HE NEEDS TO BE ***PROTECTED.*** THAT'S NOT ***OUR*** WORLD, THAT'S ***YOUR*** WORLD!

AND WHILE WE'RE ON THAT SUBJECT -- SAFER FROM WHO..?

BETWEEN YOUR ***'BUSINESS DEALINGS'*** AND YOUR OCCASIONAL BOUTS OF... OF...

YES?

...***TEMPER...***

...I JUST DON'T ***FEEL*** THAT THIS WOULD BE A ***HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT*** FOR MY SON.

I SEE.

ARE YOU QUITE ***FINISHED*** THEN?

NO, I'M NOT. SINCE YOUR RETURN, I'VE YIELDED TO YOU ON A NUMBER OF ISSUES THAT I OTHERWISE WOULD HAVE CHALLENGED YOU ON.

AS NORMIE'S GRANDFATHER, I FELT THAT IT WAS ONLY FAIR THAT I MAKE SOME COMPROMISES WITH YOU.

THAT THAT WOULD BE THE RIGHT THING TO DO...

...BUT YOU HAVE YET TO CONCEDE TO MY WISHES IN ANY OF THESE MATTERS, AND --

LIZ, MY DEAR, IF I MIGHT INTERRUPT..? I AM A BUSINESSMAN, AND SO I NEVER CONCEDE. TO ANYONE. EVER.

AS FOR MY STATEMENT, I BELIEVE THAT YOU MISUNDERSTOOD -- IT WAS NOT A REQUEST.

NORMIE IS MY GRANDSON -- MY FLESH AND BLOOD. HE WILL ALWAYS HAVE A HOME WITH ME. WHAT I SAID WAS, IT WOULD BE IN YOUR BEST INTEREST FOR YOU BOTH TO COME AND LIVE WITH ME...

...IF YOU GET MY MEANING?

ALSO, SHOULD EVER YOU FIND THE URGE TO TAKE THAT TONE WITH ME AGAIN, I CAN ASSURE YOU...

...AN' THEN THE THING SAYS, "LOOK, DRAGON MAN, THAT MAN'S BEATIN' UP SHE-HULK!"...

...GO GET 'IM...

CHKK

Huh?

DADDY..?

THAT WAS ***RIDICULOUS!*** WE LOOKED LIKE ***FOOLS*** OUT THERE! IT WAS JUST AN EXERCISE IN ***STUPIDITY!***

THE MARRIOT --

ANNIE, HONEY, ***RELAX!*** WE JUST HIT A ***SNAG,*** THAT'S ***ALL!***

THAT WAS JUST OUR ***TRIAL RUN*** -- WE'LL GET ANOTHER ***CHANCE.***

NOW THAT WE'VE GOT SPIDER-MAN'S ***NUMBER,*** TAKING HIM DOWN IS GONNA BE A ***SNAP*** NEXT TIME!

Oh, ***GREG*** -- DO YOU ***THINK*** SO? I'M JUST SO ***AFRAID*** THAT WE'RE MAKING A ***MISTAKE,*** THAT SOMETHING MIGHT GO ***WRONG...***

BELIEVE ME, HONEY -- ***NOTHING'S*** GOING TO GO ***WRONG.*** ONCE WE CAPTURE ***SPIDER-MAN,*** AND THIS IS ***ALL OVER,*** I ***PROMISE YOU...***

...WE WON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ***ANYTHING ANYMORE!***

THE APARTMENT OF JOE AND MARTHA ROBERTSON --

BUT, ROBBIE -- YOU'VE ***SEEN*** WHAT'S HAPPENING DOWN THERE..!

EVER SINCE OSBORN'S COME ***INTO*** THE BUGLE, IT'S LIKE THE MAN TOOK THE ***SOUL*** OUT OF THE PLACE! HE'S GOT JAMESON ***COWED*** -- JONAH BARELY COMES OUT OF HIS OFFICE TO ***YELL AT ME*** ANYMORE!

BUT YOU'RE THE ***HEART*** OF THE BUGLE, ROBBIE -- THE PAPER ***NEEDS*** YOU, ***JONAH*** NEEDS YOU... YOUR ***POSITIVE INFLUENCE,*** YOUR ***LEVEL HEAD*** --

-- YOU'VE ***GOTTA*** COME BACK!

I ***CAN'T,*** PETER -- I ***HAVE*** TO LEAVE THE PAPER. FOR THE ***LONGEST TIME,*** I FOUGHT IT...

...BUT THE BUGLE'S BECOME SOMETHING THAT I NO LONGER ***LIKE,*** AND INSTEAD OF ***MY*** TRYING TO BE A POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON ***IT*** --

BUT ***THAT'S JUST IT!*** YOU'RE THE ***LAST HOPE*** -- THE LAST GOOD THING AT THE BUGLE!... IF ***YOU*** LEAVE, OSBORN TAKES AN EVEN ***BIGGER*** BITE, AND --

-- ***IT'S*** THREATENING TO ***SWALLOW ME WHOLE.***

PETER -- I ***KNOW*** HOW MUCH YOU LOVE JOE, AND IT'S ***FAIRLY OBVIOUS*** HOW YOU FEEL ABOUT THE ***BUGLE***... BUT THE TRUTH ***IS*** --

-- I WON'T ***LET*** HIM GO BACK! I CAN'T STAND ***BY*** AND WATCH MY HUSBAND BE ***CONSUMED*** BY SOMETHING HE ONCE ***LOVED SO MUCH!***

IT WAS ***DESTROYING HIM,*** PETER...

...AND IT HAD GOTTEN TO THE ***POINT*** WHERE I WAS STARTING TO FEEL THAT THE ***DAILY BUGLE*** HAD BECOME A ***BIGGER PART*** OF OUR ***MARRIAGE*** THAN ***WE*** WERE --

-- DO YOU KNOW WHAT I'M ***SAYING?***

YEAH... I...

...I THINK I ***DO.***

A SHORT TIME LATER...

MAN, THAT'S JUST TYPICAL ..!

IT TOOK MY LISTENING TO **MARTHA** TALK ABOUT **ROBBIE** FOR ME TO HEAR WHAT **MARY JANE** WAS SAYING TO **ME!**

AND MAYBE SHE'S **RIGHT**...

WITH EVERYTHING THAT **OSBORN'S DONE** TO MAKE SPIDEY'S CONTINUED EXISTENCE **NEAR IMPOSSIBLE**...

WANTED BY THE DAILY BUGLE: SPIDER-MAN

...MAYBE IT **IS** TIME FOR THE WEB-HEAD TO CALL IT **QUITS!**

SONAR BEACON'S HEADIN' **RIGHT FOR US** -- THAT MUST BE **HIM** COMIN' UP OUTTA THE **SUBWAY.** GET READY T'GET **AROUND** 'IM, HARV.

WE KNOW WHO HE **IS,** LEE?

WE C'N FIGGER **THAT** OUT AFTER WE KILL 'IM.

WHOA! SPIDER-SENSE IS TELLING ME --

-- THAT MAYBE I'D BETTER START MY RETIREMENT **TOMORROW!**

OZZIE! HARV! MOVE!

WHERE IS HE, LEE?

Ah'm CHECKIN' NOW -- SIGNAL'S GETTIN' FAINT.

SONAR TAG'S STARTIN' T'WEAR OFF. DANG! HE'S MOVIN' FAST!

WHERE IS HE?!

THIS CAN'T BE RIGHT. IT SAYS THAT HE'S --

GOTCHA, BUG!

SKRUMM

JINKIES!

THESE GUYS ARE USING SOME MAJOR STRANGE ORDNANCE HERE --

-- WHATEVER THAT WAS JUST TOOK OUT THE ENTIRE CORNER OF THIS BUILDING...

...AND THEY'RE A HIGHER CALIBER OF IDIOT THAN THE ONES FROM EARLIER, TOO! I'LL HAVE TO GET THEM AWAY FROM THE BUILDINGS -- OUT IN THE OPEN WHERE I CAN SEE THEM!

THWIP

THWIP

AND THAT PLACE LOOKS LIKE IT'LL DO THE TRICK!

WHAT'S A LITTLE **WEBBING** BETWEEN FRIENDS -- ER... **FLAGPOLES..?**

HOPEFULLY, IF I PLAY **MY CARDS** RIGHT, IT'LL WORK LIKE A BIG OL' **NO-PEST STRIP!**

NOW, IF I CAN JUST GET THE **PESTS** TO COOPERATE..!

HE'S MOVED INTA TH' PARK. ***POSITIONS,*** BOYS.

I'M THERE, LEE. ***HARV..?***

SHADDUP, OZZIE...

...WE GOT ***COMP'NY!***

HERE THEY COME...

Ah GOT 'IM *DEAD!* SOMEBODY GIMME SOME *BACK-UP!*

BACK-UP?!

DID SOMEBODY SAY *'BACK-UP'?!*

Huh?

AAAAHHH!

FWAKK

HURK!

SPRONG

THANK YOU, *THANK* YOU! AND FOR MY *NEXT* TRICK...

HERE'S YOUR *'BACK-UP'!*

EVERYONE FREEZE! POLICE!

Oh, NO! A ROOKIE! WHO DOESN'T KNOW THAT THAT DOESN'T FLY WITH THESE TYPES!

GOTTA GET HIM OUT OF HERE BEFORE --

-- YIKES!

SHWAMM

THAT COP CAUGHT THE BRUNT OF THAT BLAST!

AND THAT WASN'T ONE OF THEIR CANNONS -- I KNOW THAT SOUND! IT WAS --

THAT WAS JUST A WARNING SHOT, SPIDER-MAN! NOW MY FORCE FIELD --

YEAH, YEAH -- TAKE IT EASY, SNACKY -- I'LL GET YOU OUTTA HERE!

Ah DON' THINK SO, SPAHDER-MAN --

-- Y'AIN'T GONNA BE NOTHIN' BUT A SMEAR O' GREASE WHEN Ah -

Huh?! IT'S JAMMED! WHUT -

THAT WOULD BE *ME!*

I'VE TAKEN THE LIBERTY OF *OVERRIDING* THE *MECHANICS* OF ALL OF YOUR VARIOUS *WEAPONS!*

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU GUYS CARE OR NOT, BUT THIS COP IS *REALLY HURT.*

BAD.

POLICE! PUT UP YOUR WEAPONS!

DANG.

Oh, THIS IS JUST GREAT! COULD WE INVITE ANY MORE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO KILL ME..?

IT LOOKS LIKE THIS IS GONNA BE ONE BIG GAME OF 'DOG-PILE-ON-THE-RABBIT', AND I'LL BE PLAYING THE PART OF BUGS!

AND THIS DEFINITELY DOESN'T LOOK GOOD. THE COPS ARE SURE TO ASSUME THAT -

WE GOT A MAN DOWN! SPIDER-MAN! STEP AWAY FROM THE OFFICER, NOW!

WHAT'D I TELL YA...

IT'S *ALL RIGHT,* OFFICERS! THE SITUATION IS UNDER MY *COMPLETE CONTROL!*

I WILL *RETURN* CONTROL OF YOUR WEAPONS TO YOU ONCE MY *WIFE* AND I HAVE SAFELY SECURED THE CRIMINAL *SPIDER-MAN!*

HONEY, I'M GONNA FOCUS AN ***AREA OF OPERABILITY*** AROUND YOU SO YOU CAN ***CONTAIN*** SPIDER-MAN WITH YOUR FORCE FIELD.

GO.

ONE --

-- TWO --

*AND SUDDENLY, EVERYTHING IS **SLOW-MOTION** AGAIN --*

*-- OVERRIDE MOVES, NOT REALIZING **WHO ELSE** IS IN A DIRECT PATH OF HIS INFLUENCE --*

AURA PROJECTS HER FORCE FIELD OUT TO CAPTURE ME --

*THE ONE THEY CALLED **LEE** RAISES HIS GUN --*

*I'M NOT **FAST** ENOUGH. I COULD NEVER **MAKE IT** TO HER IN TIME --*

THE SLAZER FIRES, A BLADE OF LIGHT CLOSING THE DISTANCE --

A LOOK OF SUDDEN HORROR IN HER EYES, AURA DRAWS HER FORCE FIELD BACK TO HER, RETRIEVING IT FOR PROTECTION --

-- TOO LATE!

A PARTICLE OF THE SLAZER BEAM IS TRAPPED INSIDE WITH HER AS SHE CLOSES THE COCOON --

-- RICHOCHETING ABOUT --

-- THE LIGHT TEARS HER APART!

HER SCREAMS ARE MUFFLED BY THE FORCE FIELD...

...HIS ARE NOT...

ANNIE!

NO!

NOOO!

I'M STILL IN SHOCK, BUT I'VE GOT TO GET THIS GUY TO THE HOSPITAL...

...ALTHOUGH IT'S NOT LIKE I HAVEN'T DONE ENOUGH ALREADY..!

POWER AND RESPONSIBILITY...

...WHAT AM I RESPONSIBLE FOR NOW...?

MARY JANE...? HONEY, I'M **SORRY.** YOU'RE **RIGHT.**

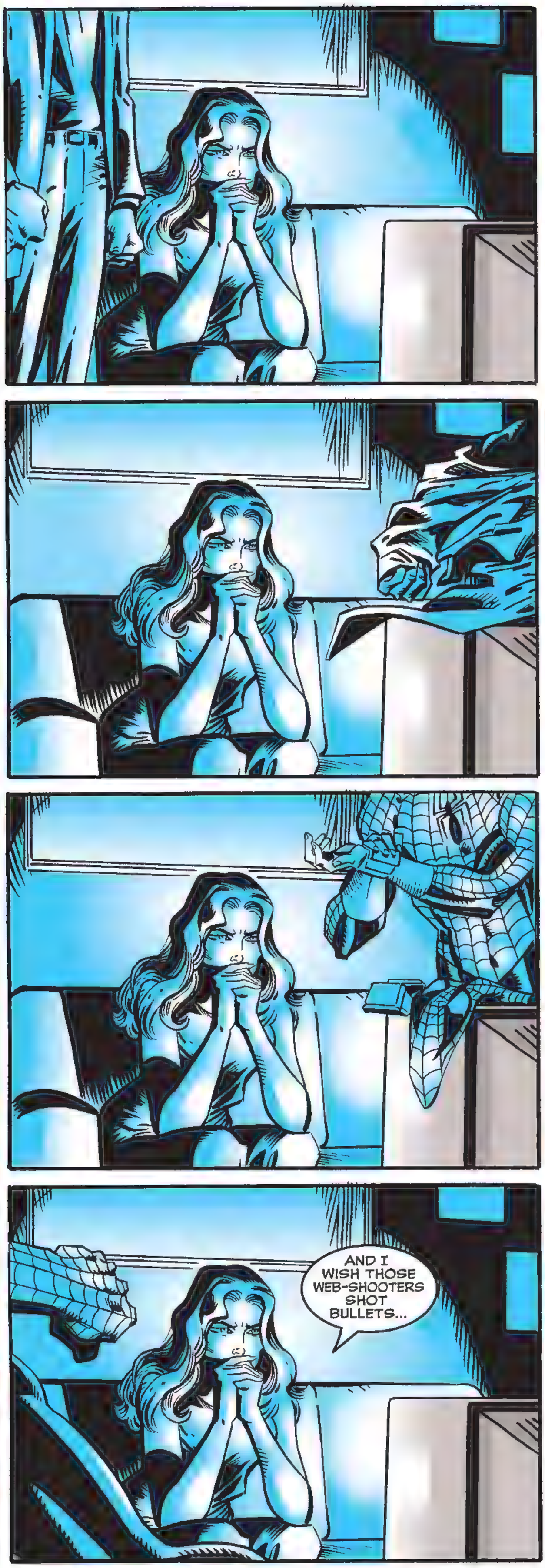
SOMETHING... **TERRIBLE...** HAPPENED TONIGHT... AND IT **PROVED** TO ME THAT IT **IS** TOO DANGEROUS! I **CAN'T BE** --

MJ?!

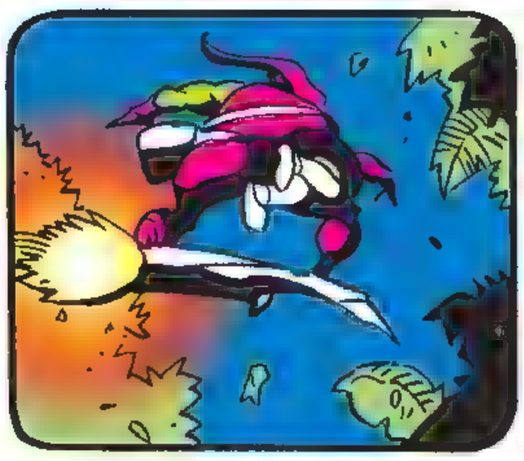
MARY JANE?! WHAT'S **WRONG?** WHAT --

PETER... N-NORMIE --

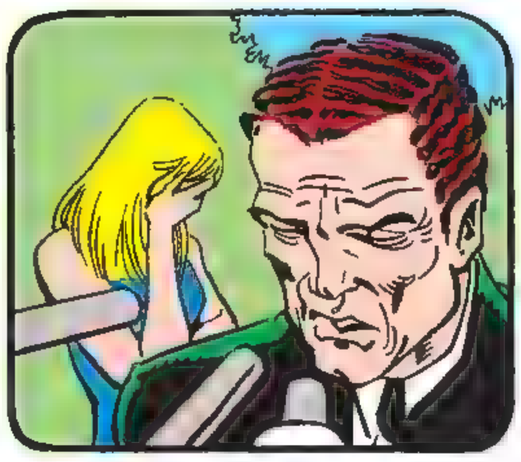
-- **NORMIE OSBORN'S BEEN KIDNAPPED!**



...CONTINUING OUR SPECIAL REPORT. AGAIN; 5-YEAR-OLD **NORMIE OSBORN**, GRANDSON OF INDUSTRIALIST NORMAN OSBORN, WAS KIDNAPPED EARLIER THIS EVENING FROM HIS GRANDFATHER'S ESTATE IN **GLEN COVE**...



ALTHOUGH **INCONCLUSIVE**, SECURITY CAMERA FOOTAGE SUGGESTS THAT THE CHILD WAS ABDUCTED BY THE BIZARRE **GREEN GOBLIN**, A FIGURE REPEATEDLY **LINKED** TO THE OSBORN FAMILY AND CONSIDERED BY AUTHORITIES TO BE A **DEADLY SOCIOPATH.**



THROUGH HIS **GRIEF** AND **CONCERN**, OSBORN HAD THIS TO SAY: "OF COURSE MY DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AND I ARE PREPARED TO SUBMIT TO **ANY AND ALL** OF THE KIDNAPPERS' **DEMANDS.** WE WANT **ONLY** TO HAVE OUR LITTLE BOY BACK, **SWIFTLY** AND **SAFELY.** AND I HOPE THAT THIS WILL **DISPEL** ANY FURTHER **RUMOR** THAT I AM CONNECTED **IN ANY WAY** TO THIS... **MADMAN!"**

TO BE CONTINUED IN
AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #432
SPIDER-LIST PART 2

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

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MAR #432

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SPIDER-HUNT PART 2

DEFALCO ROMITA JR LAROSA

THEY ARE THE HUNTERS!

BRAVE AND NOBLE WARRIORS!

(EXCEPT, PERHAPS, FOR GLENN WHO STILL SLEEPS WITH A NIGHT LIGHT.)

EVERY YEAR --

-- (EXCEPT WHEN BOB'S WIFE WANTS TO VISIT HER MOTHER) --

-- ARMED WITH ENOUGH ARMAMENT TO PUT MOST MIDDLE EUROPEAN ARMIES TO SHAME, THEY STALK THE WOODS OF UPSTATE NEW YORK.

(THOUGH RALPH NEVER CONTRIBUTES FOR GAS.)

TONIGHT, THEY HUNT THE MOST DANGEROUS GAME OF ALL --!

ANYBODY FOR A DONUT RUN?

I'M STARVED.

ME, TOO -- BUT DON'T FORGET MY BOSTON CREME THIS TIME!

WILL YOU MORONS KEEP IT DOWN? THERE'S A KILLER OUT THERE!

IT'S OUR PATRIOTIC DUTY TO BRING HIM IN, AND COLLECT THAT FAT REWARD, AND -- HEY!

LOOK!

IT'S HIM!

TONIGHT, THEIR PREY IS --

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-- A CERTAIN FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD WEB-SWINGER!

THE HUNTED!

THE AMAZING Stan Lee presents: SPIDER-MAN

Ohhh, GREAT! MORE JACKALS AFTER THE BOUNTY WHICH THE *DAILY BULGE* POSTED ON ME!

BAD ENOUGH WHEN IT WAS ONLY *ONE MILLION*, THEY RECENTLY UPPED TO *FIVE!*

AND THAT'S NOT MY ONLY PROBLEM! THE COPS THINK I MURDERED A STREET SLIME BY THE NAME OF *JOEY Z* --

-- AND THE GRANDSON OF *NORMAN OSBORN*, MY GREATEST ENEMY, WAS ALLEGEDLY KIDNAPPED BY THE *GREEN GOBLIN*.

BUT OSBORN'S THE GOBLIN.

AT LEAST I *THINK* HE IS!

PETER PARKER #88 -- RALFIE-Zz.

SENSATIONAL #25 -- RALFIE-ZzZzZzZzZz.

SPIDER HUNT

Part Two

TOM DEFALCO, WRITER
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BUD LAROSA, INKS
RS & COMICRAFT'S KIFF SCHOLL, LETTERS
BOB SHAREN, COLORS
RALPH MACCHIO, EDITOR
BOB HARRAS, EDITOR IN CHIEF

NEEDLESS TO SAY, I'M IN NO MOOD FOR AN EXTENDED PLAYDATE WITH THE **BEER-GUT BRIGADE!**

NAIL THAT COSTUMED FREAK!

BLOW'IM APART!

WHAA-- WHAT'S HE TOSSING AT IT?

I- IT'S BLASTED **WEBBING!**

HE'S TRYING T'MAKE **FOOLS** OUTTA OF US!

NOPE, YOU ONLY HAVE YOURSELVES TO BLAME FOR THAT!

ME, I WOULD HAVE PREFERRED TO PASS YOU BY, AND CONTINUE ON MY WAY!

A LITTLE BOY IS CRYING SOMEWHERE... AFRAID... UNABLE TO UNDERSTAND **WHAT** HAS HAPPENED TO HIM... OR **WHY!**

OW!

OFF!

UKK!

LOSERS LIKE YOU ARE ONLY DELAYING HIS RESCUE --

-- AND PROLONGING HIS **TORMENT!**

YOU SHOULD BE **ASHAMED**... BUT YOU'RE TOO **DUMB** AND GREEDY TO CARE!

TO **HELL** WITH PEOPLE LIKE YOU!

I'M GOING TO FIND THAT BOY --

-- AFTER A QUICK TRIP TO THE **EAST RIVER!**

SOUTHEAST OF MANHATTAN, IN NEW YORK BAY, **STATEN ISLAND** IS PRIMARILY KNOWN AS A SAFE AND QUIET RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY...

...FEW REALIZE THAT IT IS ALSO HOME OF GANGLAND'S CURRENT **BOSS OF BOSSES.**

A MAN CALLED FORTUNATO!

THIS... *THING*... WITH **SPIDER MAN.**

IT IS ***BAD*** FOR BUSINESS.

VERY BAD!

AMATEURS ARE SHOOTING AT SHADOWS --

-- INSTEAD OF GAMBLING OR ENJOYING THE OTHER SERVICES WE OFFER!

TO MAKE MATTERS EVEN WORSE, DON FORTUNATO... THERE ARE ***COPS*** EVERY-WHERE!

BUT I DIDN'T ASK FOR THIS AUDIENCE TO REHASH OLD NEWS..

DIDN'T YOU, **ROSE?**

I WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION YOU WISHED TO DISCUSS THE RECENT TRANSGRESSION OF THE ***BLACK TARANTULA!***

I PAY YOU A FAIR PERCENTAGE TO OPERATE IN THIS CITY, DON FORTUNATO --

-- BUT THE GUY'S ENCROACHING ON MY TERRITORY AND EATING INTO MY PROFITS!

I RESPECTFULLY IMPLORE YOU TO -- ***HEY!***

"SOUNDS LIKE THERE'S ***TROUBLE*** OUTSIDE!"

BUDA BUDA BUDA

YAARGH!

BRO TO TO TO TO

PKOWPKOWPKOW

KRAKASKRASH

PLEASE, FORGIVE THIS INTRUSION, DON FORTUNATO.

I HAVE LEARNED, THROUGH MEANS INAPPROPRIATE TO DIVULGE, THAT I WAS TO BE A TOPIC OF TODAY'S CONVERSATION.

I PREFER TO PRESENT MY CASE IN PERSON.

I AM THE ***BLACK TARANTULA*** --

-- AND I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOUR BLESSING TO EXPAND MY INTERESTS INTO THE ***NEW YORK*** AREA.

D-DON'T TRUST HIM!

HE OBVIOUSLY PLANS TO *KILL* US BOTH!

I THINK NOT.

HE COULD HAVE ALREADY DONE SO.

YOU MAY GO, ROSE...

...THE TARANTULA AND I HAVE ***BUSINESS*** TO DISCUSS.

B-BUT, SIR --!

MUST I ***REPEAT*** MYSELF?

NO... *SIR!*

I CAME TO THE APARTMENT OF NORMAN OSBORN --

-- HOPING TO UNCOVER A CLUE TO WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON WITH HIS GRANDSON --

-- AND I'M GETTING AN EARFUL!

YOU'VE BEEN PRANCING AROUND THIS TOWN WITH A PHALANX OF BODYGUARDS EVER SINCE SPIDER-MAN ASSAULTED YOU --

-- BUT YOU COULDN'T PROTECT MY BABY!

I...I AM SO SORRY, LIZ! I LOVE MY GRANDSON, AND I'LL DO EVERYTHING IN MY POWER TO ASSURE HIS SAFE RETURN.

I CAN'T HELP BUT FELL RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL THIS...

THE GOBLIN DIDN'T CHOOSE LITTLE NORMAN AT RANDOM!

THAT MANIAC IS OBVIOUSLY TRYING TO STRIKE AT ME!

B-BUT I...I'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED YOU WERE THE GOBLIN!

I...I KNOW.

HE'S LYING! I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT HE WAS THE ORIGINAL GREEN GOBLIN!

HARRY -- HIS SON AND NORMIE'S FATHER -- EVENTUALLY CARRIED ON THE FAMILY TRADITION.

BUT HARRY'S DEAD!

ISN'T HE?!

I APOLOGIZE FOR ANY ***INCONVENIENCE*** I MAY HAVE CAUSED YOU OR YOUR STAFF --

-- AND I FULLY INTEND TO MAKE AMENDS!

I AM CERTAIN WE CAN ARRIVE AT AN APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATION, BUT WE HAVE OTHER MATTERS TO DISCUSS.

MY COLLEAGUES, WHO KNOW OF SUCH THINGS, TELL ME YOU ENJOY CERTAIN BUSINESS ADVANTAGES IN ***SOUTH AMERICA***, AND PARTS OF ***EUROPE***.

IF THAT IS SO, WHY WOULD YOU WISH TO ENTER A MARKETPLACE AS COMPETITIVE AS ***NEW YORK?***

A MAN MUST SEEK OUT ***NEW CHALLENGES...***

IF HE TRULY WISHES TO GROW!

I AM INCLINED TO WELCOME YOU TO THESE SHORES... IN EXCHANGE FOR A SMALL SERVICE.

YOU MAY FIND IT QUITE *CHALLENGING.*

A CERTAIN MAN HAS BEEN ***DISRUPTING*** MY BUSINESS, AND I WISH TO SEND HIM A ***MESSAGE.***

HIS NAME IS *SPIDER-MAN!*

DAILY

PLEASE--!

TELL ME IT'S A *MISTAKE!*

A SICK *JOKE!*

WISH I COULD, PETER... BUT I'M OUTTA HERE!

JONAH HAS ALREADY ACCEPTED MY RESIGNATION.

THE *BUGLE* NEEDS YOU, ROBBIE.

I NEED YOU!

I... I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED BETWEEN YOU AND *JONAH JAMESON*, BUT I'M SURE YOU CAN WORK IT OUT!

AFRAID NOT, PETER.

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN I WOULD HAVE DONE *ANYTHING* FOR *THE DAILY BUGLE*... FOR *JONAH!*

A TIME WHEN *WE* REALLY STOOD FOR SOMETHING!

THAT CHANGED THE DAY *NORMAN OSBORN* MANAGED TO WRANGLE A CONTROLLING INTEREST IN THIS NEWS-PAPER.

I KNOW IT WOULD BE MORE ***NOBLE*** FOR ME TO STAY, AND KEEP FIGHTING.

IT'S JUST NOT ***PRACTICAL.***

MY FIRST RESPONSIBILITY IS TO MY ***FAMILY*** --

-- AND NO JOB IS WORTH THE ***GRIEF*** AND ***STRESS*** THIS ONE HAS CAUSED ME AND MY WIFE!

OKAY.

I'M NOT GOING TO MAKE IT ANY HARDER FOR YOU.

YOU TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF, Y'HEAR?

I'M GOING TO MISS WORKING WITH YOU, PETER.

YOU BE ESPECIALLY *CAREFUL*...

I DON'T THINK *NORMAN* LIKES YOU VERY MUCH.

WITH HUGS, TEARS, AND MANY A ROBUST PAT ON THE BACK --

-- JOE ROBERTSON CROSSES THE BUGLE'S NEWSROOM FOR, PERHAPS, THE VERY LAST TIME.

BEN URICH, BETTY LEEDS, GLORY GRANT -- EVERYONE HAS WORDS OF GENTLE ENCOURAGEMENT, AND SINCERE AFFECTION!

EVERYONE EXCEPT J. JONAH JAMESON!

SO! HE'S REALLY LEAVING...

...AS PUBLISHER OF THIS PAPER, I SUPPOSE I SHOULD WISH HIM WELL...

NORMAN OSBORN IS A ***MONSTER!***

DAILY BUGLE

HE'S ***MURDERED*** PEOPLE I LOVE... AND ***RUINED*** MORE LIVES THAN I CARE TO COUNT.

SOME ***HERO*** I AM! I'VE NEVER BEEN ABLE TO ***NAIL*** THE CREEP!

NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I'VE MANAGED TO *DEFEAT* HIM --

-- HE ALWAYS FINDS A WAY TO *RETURN* --

-- *STRONGER* AND MORE *DANGEROUS* THAN EVER.

I DROPPED BY THE BUGLE, HOPING TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HIS GRANDSON'S KIDNAPPING!

OSBORN, HIMSELF, WAS WITH THE BOY'S MOTHER WHEN THE GRAB OCCURRED -- AND EVERY EYEWITNESS PEGS THE ***GREEN GOBLIN*** AS THE PERPETRATOR!

SINCE I KNOW FOR A FACT THAT OSBORN WAS THE ORIGINAL GOBLIN, I CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT HE'S FOUND HIMSELF SOME PATSY WHO -- ***Uh-Oh!***

SPIDER-SENSE IS WARNING ME... THAT ***DANGER*** IS APPROACHING!

GOTTA MOVE ***FASTER!*** MUST FINISH DRESSING BEFORE IT ***ARRIVES!***

I CAN'T BE SEEN WITHOUT MY ***MASK!***

THERE! MADE IT!

I JUST HOPE I HAVE TIME TO WEB UP MY CIVVIES BEFORE --

YIKES!

BARELY MANAGED TO AVOID GETTING SQUOOSHED!

THE GOOD NEWS IS MY CIVILIAN CLOTHES WILL REMAIN SAFELY HIDDEN BENEATH THAT DEBRIS UNTIL I CAN RETURN TO RETRIEVE THEM.

THE BAD NEWS IS THAT I DON'T RECOGNIZE THIS WHACKO!

HEY, BUDDY! YOU EVER THINK OF PRINTING UP ***BUSINESS CARDS?***

THEY'RE MUCH EASIER TO TOSS THAN ***CHIMNEYS!***

PERHAPS, BUT FAR LESS *DRAMATIC!*

I AM THE ***BLACK TARANTULA,*** AND I WANT TO ASSURE YOU THAT I BEAR YOU NO PERSONAL MALICE.

YOUR DESTRUCTION WILL MERELY SERVE AS A MEANS TO A GREATER GOAL.

THAT'S HARDLY *COMFORTING!*

ALTHOUGH I'M GLAD TO HEAR I HAVEN'T ACCIDENTALLY OFFENDED YOU.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, SOME PEOPLE FIND ME *VERRRYYY* ABRASIVE!

PERHAPS...

...BUT A GENTLEMAN DO NOT DISCUSS HIS FAMILY WITH STRANGERS!

OOOKAY, SO LET'S DISCUSS ANOTHER FAMILY...

DID NORMAN ORBORN HIRE YOU?

ARE YOU THE ONE WHO *SNATCHED* HIS GRANDSON?!

I, HOWEVER, SHALL ONLY FIND YOU *DEAD!*

MAYBE!

THAT JURY'S STILL OUT!

BY THE WAY, I USED TO FIGHT A SOUTH AMERICAN SMOOTHIE WHO ALSO CALLED HIMSELF THE *TARANTULA* --

-- THOUGH HE CAME WITHOUT A COLORFUL APPELLATION!

A DISTANT *RELATIVE,* PERHAPS?!

ARE YOU DELIBERATELY TRYING TO *PROVOKE* ME?!

THE BLACK TARANTULA IS NEITHER A PETTY MERCENARY... NOR AN ABDUCTOR OF HELPLESS CHILDREN.

SHAZZKWOOM

;SHEESH!

DID I HIT A *NERVE?*

MAYBE YOU SHOULD TRY DEALING WITH THOSE *UNRESOLVED ISSUES* --

-- WHILE I FIND A CONVENIENT ***ROOFTOP*** TO REST MY WEARY BONES!

HE FLOATS THROUGH THE AIR WITH THE GREATEST OF ***EASE***, THE DARING YOUNG SPIDER SOMERSAULTING IN THE ***BREEZE!***

I'VE ACTUALLY HEARD OF YOU, TARANTULA! YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE SOME BIG SHOT, INTERNATIONAL CRIMELORD.

IF YOUR PRESENCE ISN'T RELATED TO THE ORBORN KIDNAPPING, I CAN ONLY ASSUME YOU'RE LOOKING TO SCORE THE ***BOUNTY*** ON ME!

A LOGICAL -- THOUGH ***FLAWED*** -- ASSUMPTION!

WHILE I AM QUITE AWARE OF THE SUBSTANTIAL REWARD THAT IS BEING OFFERED FOR YOU --

-- MY PERSONAL ***HONOR*** AND VARIOUS ***PRACTICALITIES*** --

-- MAKE IT QUITE ***UNFEASIBLE*** FOR ME TO EVEN ATTEMPT TO COLLECT IT!

KAWAMP

LET'S SEE IF I HAVE THIS STRAIGHT...

YOU'RE NOT AFTER ME BECAUSE OF A) THE OSBORNS... B) ANYTHING I'VE DONE... OR C) FOR MERE MONETARY GAIN.

THWIPP

THWIPP

IS IT A *TRADEMARK* ISSUE?

SOMETHING ABOUT THE WHOLE *TARANTULA/SPIDER* THING?

YOUR LAWYER COULD HAVE SENT ME A SIMPLE *CEASE AND DESIST!*

YOU ARE NOT NEARLY AS ***FUNNY*** AS YOU BELIEVE, SPIDER-MAN.

AND MY CLAIM TO AN ARACHNID-LIKE NAME EASILY PREDATES YOUR OWN --

-- BY NEARLY ***SEVEN HUNDRED YEARS!***

H-HE RIPPED THROUGH MY WEBBING LIKE IT WAS ***TISSUE PAPER!***

B-BUT THAT'S ALMOST AS *IMPOSSIBLE* --

-- AS THE ***AGE*** HE CLAIMS TO BE!

MAYBE I SHOULD HAVE FOLLOWED ROBBIE'S LEAD --

-- AND ***QUIT*** WHEN I HAD THE CHANCE!

*PETER PARKER SUDDENLY THINKS OF HIS OWN **WIFE**...*

*...EVER SINCE THE BUGLE POSTED ITS REWARD, **MARY JANE** HAS REPEATEDLY BEGGED HIM TO STOP BEING **SPIDER-MAN**.*

THE CONSTANT STRESS HAS EVEN BEGUN TO AFFECT HER HEALTH --

-- RESULTING IN A RECENT FAINTING SPELL!

AS SHOWN LAST ISSUE -- Remedy-Conscious-Ralf!

AND, EVEN AS PETER WORRIES ABOUT HER --

-- MARY JANE PARKER DEALS WITH THIS EVER-MOUNTING ANXIETY IN HER OWN UNIQUE MANNER!

YOU GO, GIRL!

THIS IS EXACTLY WHAT I NEED, SHANTAL!

I AM SOOOO GLAD YOU CONVINCED ME TO JOIN YOU!

LIFE IS FOR THE LIVING, MARY JANE!

YOU MAY BE MARRIED, BUT YA AIN'T DEAD!

SPEAKING OF WHICH, WHERE IS THE OLD BALL & CHAIN?

WHAT CAN I SAY? PETER TAKES HIS RESPONSIBILITIES VERY SERIOUSLY.

WHEN HE GETS INTO A SITUATION, HE REAL-LEEE STAYS INVOLVED!

BUT I DELIBERATELY CAME HERE TO AVOID THINKING ABOUT A CERTAIN MONSTROUS MADMAN --

-- A PARTICULAR MISSING CHILD --

-- AND A CITY FULL OF MURDEROUS BOUNTY-HUNTERS!

HE...Uh... HAD SOME WORK TO DO!

SEEMS LIKE THAT BOY SUFFERS FROM A DEFICIENCY OF THE PARTY GENE.

COME ON, GIRLFRIEND! LET'S SCORCH THIS DANCE FLOOR!

MEANWHILE, SOMEWHERE IN BROOKLYN...

EVERYBODY SAID YOU WERE DEAD!

SIRICO SALVAGE

MOM... GRAN'PA... UNCLE PETE AND MARY JANE... *EVERY-BODY!*

BUT I NEVER BELIEVED THEM!

NEVER!

I ALWAYS KNEW YOU'D COME BACK FOR ME!

Y-YOU ARE MY *DADDY* --

-- *AREN'T YOU?!*

I AM QUITE *PLEASED* WITH YOUR INITIAL PERFORMANCE, SPIDER-MAN.

YOUR SPEED, AGILITY AND FIGHTING SKILLS ARE *ALL* THAT I HOPED TO EXPERIENCE -- AND *MORE!*

THE BLACK TARANTULA IS RARELY GRACED WITH SUCH A WORTHY CHALLENGER.

YOU LIKE *CHALLENGES?*

NOOOOO PROBLEM!

I GOT INS WITH BOTH THE *FANTASTIC FOUR* AND THE *AVENGERS!*

WITH THE PROPER NOTICE, I MIGHT EVEN ARRANGE A LITTLE *ONE-ON-ONE* WITH THE *HULK* --

-- OR THE *SILVER SURFER!*

I'M TRYING TO TRACK DOWN A MISSING CHILD, AND --

>YIPES<

A CHILD --?!

WHAT HAVE YOU TO DO WITH A MISSING CHILD?

BUT I, PERSONALLY, HAVE NEITHER THE TIME NOR INCLINATION TO ENGAGE IN SOME MINDLESS *MACHO GAME!*

GUESS YOU HAVEN'T HEARD THE *NEWS!*

THE *GRANDSON* OF AN OLD SPARRING PARTNER OF MINE WAS RECENTLY KIDNAPPED!

I INTEND TO *FIND* THAT BOY --

-- AND BRING HIM *HOME!*

RIGHT AFTER I FLATTEN *YOU!*

I APPLAUD YOUR *DEDICATION,* SPIDER-MAN --

-- AS WELL AS YOUR SENSE OF *HONOR!*

CONSIDERING THE CURRENT *BOUNTY* ON YOUR HEAD --

-- ONLY A MAN OF EXCEPTIONAL COMMITMENT WOULD RISK HIMSELF TO SAVE THE *HEIR* OF AN ENEMY!

PUH

SQAT

AND THAT MAKES MY OWN TASK ALL THE MORE *DIFFICULT!*

WHILE YOUR LOCAL AUTHORITIES MAY MISTAKENLY BELIEVE YOU TO BE A CRIMINAL --

-- THOSE WHO LURK IN THE SHADOWS SEE YOUR TRUE HEROISM!

SWAK SWAK SWAK

IRONIC, ISN'T IT?

YOUR ENEMIES KNOW YOU *BETTER* THAN YOUR ALLIES.

I WAS SENT TO INFORM YOU THAT YOU ARE NO LONGER ***WELCOMED*** IN THIS CITY.

FOR THE SAKE OF THE MISSING CHILD, I WILL ALLOW YOU TO LIVE.

BUT YOU MUST NOT MISCONSTRUE MY GENEROSITY...

RESCUE THE CHILD -- IF YOU STILL CAN -- AND THEN, ***DISAPPEAR***...

OR I SHALL BE FORCED TO RETURN!

AND YOU WILL NOT *SURVIVE* A SECOND ENCOUNTER!

W-WEIRD GUY -- THAT BLACK TARANTULA!

H-HE WOULD HAVE KILLED ME ON ANY OTHER DAY.

A-AND MIGHT HAVE EVEN STOPPED FOR TAKE-OUT ON HIS WAY HOME.

I THINK ABOUT THAT AS I SLIP IN AND OUT OF CONSCIOUSNESS FOR WHAT SEEMS TO BE A DOZEN YEARS.

I...I'M LYING IN A SEA OF AGONY.

W-WITH EVERY GASPING BREATH, I TRY TO TAKE INVENTORY OF MY INJURIES.

T-THE TALLY GROWS SO HIGH THAT MY HEAD STARTS TO SPIN AND BUZZ...

NO...

T-THAT BUZZING IS MY SPIDER-SENSE!

I-IT'S HIM!

LOOKS LIKE HE WAS BEATEN WITHIN AN INCH OF HIS LIFE!

SOMEBODY SHOULD CALL THE COPS!

DOESN'T SEEM LIKE THERE'S MUCH FIGHT LEFT IN HIM!

HE'S LIKE A LOTTERY TICKET JUST ACHING TO BE CASHED!

THE FIVE MILLION CAN EASILY BE SPLIT BETWEEN US!

PLENTY FOR EVERYBODY!

I COULD USE A NEW CAR!

A DVD SYSTEM!

ME, I'M GOING TO DISNEY-WORLD!

B-BARELY MANAGE TO REACT IN TIME!

MY ADORING FANS!

I HEAR THEIR **SHOUTS** AND **CURSES** AS I SLAM INTO THE SIDE OF THE BUILDING --

-- AND SOMEHOW FIND THE STRENGTH TO **STICK** TO IT WITHOUT LOSING CONSCIOUSNESS!

CRAWLING UP WALLS USED TO BE MY SPECIALTY...

...NO MORE.

IT TAKES ME FOUR OR FIVE CENTURIES FULL OF ANGUISH TO REACH THE ROOF --

-- INCH BY DIZZYING INCH --

-- AND THAT'S WHEN THE BUZZING SUDDENLY RETURNS --

-- WITH HARDLY A **MOMENT** TO SPARE!

IS IT ANOTHER CIVILIAN PLAYING THE WEEKEND MERCENARY?

ANOTHER AMATEUR LOOKING FOR AN EASY SCORE?

NOPE...

...NO SUCH LUCK!

GAME'S OVER, WEBHEAD!

YOU'RE FACING A REAL *PROFESSIONAL* NOW!

I'M CALLED **SHOTGUN**--

-- AND YOU CAN EITHER *SURRENDER* OR *DIE!*

TO BE CONTINUED... IN PETER PARKER #89!

MARVEL COMICS

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MAR #89

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PETER PARKER SPIDER-MAN®

WANTED

SPIDERHUNT PART 3

THIS CITY NEEDS YOUR HELP.

DAILY BUGLE
EXCLUSIVE
THE SPIDER-GOBLIN
THE BOY
IN CONNECTION

I NEED YOUR HELP.

MY GRANDSON... HE HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED BY A MADMAN.

DAILY BUGLE
EXCLUSIVE
THE SPIDER-GOBLIN
THE BOY
THE CONNECT

ALL EVIDENCE POINTS TO THE *GREEN GOBLIN*, BUT...

HE'S IN CAHOOTS WITH *SPIDER-MAN*.

CLAK

SPIDER-MAN HAS GONE MAD.

HIS ATTACKS ON ME, ON MY FAMILY...

I *FEAR* FOR MY GRANDSON'S LIFE.

...THE KILLING OF A LOWLY CRIMINAL IN *SUCH* A HORRIBLE FASHION.

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THE ENTIRE CITY IS HUNTING FOR SPIDER-MAN.

THAT IS MY DOING.

IN AN EFFORT TO BRING A SWIFT ENDING TO SPIDER-MAN'S MADNESS I PLACED A FIVE MILLION DOLLAR REWARD ON HIS HEAD.

THAT MAY HAVE BEEN A MISTAKE.

NOW THE STREETS ARE FILLED WITH WEEKEND WARRIORS...

...OVERLY ARMED STREET PUNKS...

...AND POLICE OFFICERS TOO BUSY TRYING TO KEEP THEM ALL FROM KILLING EACH OTHER TO DEAL WITH THE ***REAL*** CRIMINALS.

THIS IS WHY I HAVE TURNED TO YOU.

IT IS WHY I CHOSE TO LIBERATE YOU FROM YOUR CAPTORS.*

YOU, SIR, ARE A TRUE AMERICAN HERO.

THE PERSECUTION YOU HAVE SUFFERED FOR YOUR CONTINUING ATTEMPTS TO SERVE THIS GREAT NATION OF OURS IS UNCONSCIONABLE.

I GIVE YOU FREEDOM WITH NO STRINGS ATTACHED.

I ASK ONLY THAT YOU DO THAT WHICH IS RIGHT...

*THIS TOOK PLACE AFTER **HEROES FOR HIRE #9**
– Researchin' Ralf.

...THAT WHICH YOU HAVE ALWAYS DONE.

AND I OFFER YOU ***ANY*** ASSISTANCE I MAY GIVE IN THE ATTAINMENT OF YOUR GOALS.

SIMPLE QUESTION.

SINCE YOU CLAIM TO KNOW SO MUCH ABOUT ME, Mr. OSBORN...

...WHO ***AM*** I?

Ah, YES... I HAD FORGOTTEN THAT YOU ARE NOT COMPLETELY IN POSSESSION OF YOUR MEMORIES.

I WILL HELP YOU AS BEST I CAN.

YOU KNOW THAT YOUR NAME IS ***FRANK CASTLE,*** BUT WHAT YOU MAY NOT RECALL IS THAT SOME CALL YOU...

...THE PUNISHER!

YOU POINT ME IN THE DIRECTION OF THIS ***SPIDER-MAN.***

IF HE KNOWS ANYTHING ABOUT YOUR MISSING GRANDSON...

...I'LL FIND OUT.

OR ***DIE*** TRYING.

PETER PARKER Stan Lee presents: SPIDER-MAN

SPIDER-MAN

RS & TOMICRAFT/KS Letters GREGORY WRIGHT Colors

HOWARD MACKIE
JOHN ROMITA Jr
SCOTT HANNA
Story & Art

RALPH MACCHIO Editor BOB HARRAS Chief

MEANWHILE, THINGS ARE GOING ABOUT AS WELL AS CAN BE EXPECTED FOR SPIDER-MAN...

PTOOM

PTOOM

CUT THAT OUT!

PTOOM

PTOOM

I JUST WANT YOU TO BE SURE I WASN'T KIDDING WHEN I SAID "SURRENDER OR DIE!"*

DON'T WANT YOU TO EVEN THINK ABOUT FIGHTING ME.

* SAID ON THE VERY LAST PAGE OF **AMAZING SPIDER-MAN** #432 – Last Ralf.

TRUST ME, ***SHOTGUN***... RIGHT? FIGHTING YOU IS THE LAST THING I'VE GOT ON MY MIND!

I'VE JUST BEEN THROWN A SERIOUS ENOUGH BEATING BY A BAD GUY CALLING HIMSELF THE ***BLACK TARANTULA*** AND --

-- COME TO THINK OF IT, IF YOU HURRY, YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO CATCH UP AND PLAY WITH ***HIM***. WHAT DO YOU SAY?

PTOOM

I FIGURED AS MUCH.

WELL, I'VE GOT AN IDENTITY TO CONCEAL AND, MORE IMPORTANTLY, A YOUNG BOY TO RESCUE.

I CAN'T CATCH A BREAK.

SOMETIMES IT FEELS LIKE ME AGAINST THE ENTIRE WORLD.

IF I'M NOT GETTING SHOT AT BY EVERY TOM, DICK AND DIRTY HARRY WANNABE FROM BELOW...

...I'VE GOT THE LATEST COSTUMED VIGILANTE HAMMERING AWAY AT ME FROM ABOVE.

FORTUNATELY I'VE ALWAYS GOT A STANDING ***DEATH THREAT*** FROM THIS BLACK TARANTULA GUY TO FALL BACK ON.

HE ACTUALLY TOLD ME TO GET OUT OF TOWN.

THE WAY THINGS ARE GOING...

...MARY JANE AND I MIGHT JUST PACK UP AND DO IT.

BUT ***NOT*** UNTIL AFTER I'VE RESCUED OSBORN'S GRAND-SON, LITTLE NORMIE AND FOUND OUT ***WHO*** IS WEARING THE GREEN GOBLIN COSTUME.

THE SHOTGUN IS PERSISTENT.

AND THE WAY I'M FEELING, I DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH LONGER I CAN DODGE HIS SHOTS.

SO IT LOOKS LIKE I'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO...

CRASH

JOHN!

GET BACK, VIRGINIA! IT'S SPIDER-MAN!

OWN OR RENT?

THE APARTMENT? WE RENT, BUT --

GOOD!

YOU TELL THE LANDLORD THAT THAT NO ACCOUNT SCOUNDREL SPIDER-MAN RECKLESSLY VANDALIZED THE PLACE.

HIS INSURANCE SHOULD COVER THE DAMAGES AND IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S GOING TO HURT MY REP.

YOU FOLKS HAVE A NICE DAY.

HELLO!

TODD? IS THAT YOU?

EEEEEEK!

TASH

SORRY! I HAD MY EYES CLOSED... REALLY!

THWIP

A LITTLE BATTERED, A LITTLE BRUISED AND *VERY* EMBARRASSED, BUT... I AM...

PTOOM

SPAK

...FREE?

Oh...

...HECK!

SPLOOSH

AT THAT MOMENT, AT NYU MEDICAL CENTER...

NOT LOOKING *TOO* SHABBY, JILL.

YOU MAKE ONE HOT GUNSHOT VICTIM, GIRLFRIEND.

THANKS, SHANTAL, I *DO* TRY.

THE SEARCH FOR NORMAN OSBORN THE SECOND IS STILL UNDER WAY.

POLICE REFUSE TO COMMENT ON THE POSSIBLE LINK BETWEEN THE GREEN GOBLIN AND SPIDER-MAN IN REGARDS TO THIS LATEST IN A SERIES OF ATTACKS ON THE OSBORN FAMILY.

BROUGHT YOU A POSTER TO BRIGHTEN UP THE ROOM AND SOME READING MATERIAL, BUT YOU'D BETTER WAIT 'TIL YOUR DAD LEAVES TO CHECK 'EM OUT. THEY'RE A BIT HOT.

THIS DAD LEARNED *LONG* AGO TO BUTT OUT OF MY LITTLE GIRL'S BUSINESS.

THOUGH I WAS WONDERING IF YOU COULD SPARE A FEW MINUTES LATER TO GO OVER THE EVENTS AT YOUR HOUSE WHICH LED TO JILL'S BEING WOUNDED.

SURE THING, Mr. STACY.

MEANWHILE, THE CITY STILL HAS SPIDEY FEVER. WITH ALL EYES WAITING TO SEE IF, GIVEN HIS GRANDSON'S KIDNAPPING, NORMAN OSBORN INCREASES THE AVAILABLE REWARD MONEY.

PAUL. YOU WANT TO TURN THAT THING DOWN? WE'RE TRYING TO VISIT WITH YOUR SIS.

IN A MINUTE.

WAS SPIDER-MAN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE KIDNAPPING OF A YOUNG CHILD? **THAT** IS THE QUESTION THE ENTIRE CITY IS WAITING TO HAVE ANSWERED --

SHE SAID...

...TURN IT *OFF!*

NOW!

I DO SO ENVY AND PITY THAT HUSBAND OF YOURS.

YOU SEEM TO HAVE A TEMPER TO MATCH THAT FIERY HEAD OF HAIR, Ms. PARKER. THOUGH I GUESS THIS SPIDER-MAN BUSINESS HAS US ALL ON EDGE.

GOOD-BYE, M'BOY.

Mr. OSBORN.

HOW IS YOUNG PETER DOING? I WAS AT THE BUGLE ALL DAY TODAY AND CAUGHT NARY A GLANCE OF THE LAD.

GOOD-BYE, MARY JANE. SEND MY LOVE TO YOUR LOVELY AUNT ANNA.

WHAT DO YOU ***WANT***, NORMAN?

ALWAYS TO THE POINT, ARTHUR.

I KNOW THERE IS A HISTORY BETWEEN US, BUT... I NEED YOUR HELP.

MY GRANDSON, MY NORMIE.

IF THERE IS ***ANYTHING*** YOU CAN DO TO FIND HIM, ARTHUR... I WILL BE ETERNALLY IN YOUR DEBT.

AT THAT MOMENT, ON THE BANKS OF THE EAST RIVER...

A LONE HUNTER, A DOWN ON HIS LUCK FORMER BOOKKEEPER NAMED CLARENCE FIELDING, SEEKS THE POT OF GOLD AT THE END OF THE RAINBOW.

AND TONIGHT HE FINDS IT.

THE EQUIVALENT OF $5,000,000 WASHED UP ON SHORE.

HIS FOR THE TAKING IF HE CAN HOLD HIS HANDS STEADY AND NOT BLOW OFF HIS OWN FOOT.

D-D-DON'T M-M-MOVE!

I SAID --

-- Oh, MAN! HE'S NOT BREATHING!

D-DON'T GO DYING ON ME!

COME ON! FIGHT IT!

BREATHE!

KAFF!

KOFF! KOFF! KOFF!

THANKS.

YOU GOING TO USE THAT THING?

IF NOT... PUT IT AWAY.

LOOKING TO COLLECT THE MONEY, Huh?

YEAH.

THOUGHT FINDING YOU WAS GOING TO BE THE ANSWER TO *ALL* MY PROBLEMS.

I WAS JUST HAVING SOME MONEY TROUBLE. I LOST MY JOB, MY WIFE LEFT ME, THE RENT IS WAY OVERDUE.

I THOUGHT MAYBE...

IT WOULD BE LIKE WINNING THE LOTTERY?

YEAH. I'M BIG INTO THE LONG ODDS.

SUPER LOTTO

BUT I'VE NEVER BEEN LUCKY WITH *THEM* EITHER. BEEN PLAYING THE SAME NUMBERS FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS AND ALL I AM IS POORER.

I'M THROUGH.

I TEND TO BE A GOOD JUDGE OF PEOPLE AND ***THIS*** IS NOT WHAT YOU'RE ABOUT. QUIT NOW, WHILE YOU HAVE THE CHOICE. THE CHOICE I DON'T HAVE.

BUT THE MONEY.

ISN'T REALLY THAT IMPORTANT TO YOU. IF IT WAS... ALL YOU HAD TO DO WAS ***NOTHING.*** I WOULD HAVE DIED WITHOUT YOUR HELP. BUT YOU'RE BETTER THAN THAT.

GO.

NO ONE'S GOIN' NOWHERE.

D-DON'T WORRY. I'M N-NOT G-GOING TO LET THEM H-HURT YOU.

CLARENCE... DON'T.

F-F-FREEZE!

YEAH! I'M STONE COLD!

BUT NOT AS COLD AS YOU'RE GOIN' TO BE, LITTLE MAN.

Oh Y-YEAH! WELL I'M T-TAKING Y-YOU OUT FIRST!

CLARENCE, YOU'RE IN OVER YOUR HEAD. GET OUT OF HERE.

NO. I THINK IT'S WORKING. THEY'RE LOOKING LESS SURE OF THEMSELVES.

WE DON'T NEED THIS KIND OF TROUBLE HERE, BUDDY. WE ALL WANT THE SAME THING.

I'M NOT YOUR BUDDY! I'M --

I THINK...

...HE WAS TALKING TO *ME*.

DROP THE SHOTGUNS NOW.

SHOTGUN? I DON'T HAVE --

I THINK...

... HE WAS TALKING TO *ME*.

HOW YOU DOIN', CASTLE? I'D HEARD YOU WERE DEAD OR SOMETHING.

Ah, MAN, THIS WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A CAKE-WALK.

YOU THOUGHT TAKIN' SPIDER-MAN DOWN WAS GONNA BE A CAKE-WALK?

NO, BUT THESE TWO GUYS... THEY'RE BAD!

SO WE'LL HAVE TO KILL THEM REAL GOOD!

THERE'S ONLY TWO OF THEM.

IF WE'RE LUCKY THEY'LL KILL EACH OTHER.

CLARENCE GET IN CLOSE. THINGS ARE ABOUT TO GET REAL UGLY REAL FAST.

B-BUT I --

NOW!

BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA

BRRRRRT BRRRRRT

BOOM BOOM

JUST STAY IN CLOSE AND YOU'LL BE SAFE BEHIND THIS WEB SHIELD.

IS THAT THE STUFF YOU USED TO KILL THAT JOEY Z. GUY?

I DID *NOT* KILL ANYONE!

NOW SHUT UP AND STAY DOWN.

I'M GOING TO SEE WHAT I CAN DO TO SAVE A FEW OF THE BONEHEADS WHO WERE TRYING TO KILL ME.

THWIP

THWAP

THWAP

KROOM

WHAT ARE YOU... A MORON?

THOSE GUYS WOULD KILL YOU IN YOUR SLEEP FOR A GOOD PARKING SPACE AND YOU ARE GOING EASY ON THEM?

PUTTING A COUPLE OF EMPTY PACKING CRATES ON THEM ISN'T EXACTLY "*GOING EASY.*"

YOU *KNOW* WHAT I MEAN.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, *JIMMY-6?*

LOOKING TO COLLECT ON THE REWARD?

IF I WAS... YOU'D ALREADY BE DEAD.

I OWE YOU MY LIFE. I HATE OWING ANYBODY *ANY-THING.*

FWAM

BEEN TRACKING YOUR SORRY TAIL ALL OVER TOWN. THOUGHT MAYBE THIS WOULD BE AN EASY WAY TO SETTLE ALL SCORES.

GOOD. THEN FIND A WAY TO GET CLARENCE HERE TO SAFETY. THEN ALL DEBTS ARE SETTLED.

DEAL.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

I'M GOING TO SEE IF I CAN SAVE A FEW LIVES HERE.

MORON.

OKAY. THE MINOR PLAYERS ARE ALL GOING TO BE HELD OFF BY THE DOORS BEING WEBBED SHUT.

FROM THE WAY MY DANGER SENSE IS TINGLING, THAT ONLY LEAVES...

FWA KOOM

FWA KOOM

"...THE TWO MOST MAJOR, ALBEIT MOST DANGEROUS, PLAYERS.

"IT SEEMED LIKE A GOOD PLAN JUST A SECOND AGO."

THIS IS FREAKY, CASTLE. SEEING YOU SLAMMING DOWN ON THE WEBS LIKE THIS.

LAST I REMEMBER, YOU WERE BOTH MEMBERS OF THE GOOD GUY CORPS.

'COURSE, SO AM I... WORKING FOR THE FEDS AN' ALL.

BUT I'M ALSO A FREELANCER AND I COULDN'T PASS UP THE CHANCE AT THIS JOB... ESPECIALLY NOT WITH THE FIVE MIL REWARD.

...I REMEMBER.

I WAS HIRED TO KILL SPIDER-MAN ONCE... BY A CRIMINAL.

WE'VE HAD OUR DIFFERENCES, BUT WE'VE ALSO FOUGHT SIDE BY SIDE. HE'S ***NOT*** A KILLER.

OSBORN ***USED*** ME -- JUST LIKE THE JACKAL DID. BUT NO MORE. ***NO MORE!***

BACK OFF, SHOTGUN!

I'M NOT LETTING YOU KILL HIM.

FINALLY! YOU KNOW I KNEW YOU'D --

SHUT UP.

YOU'RE ACTING LIKE I SHOULD BE AFRAID OF YOU, CASTLE. YOU FORGETTING WHO YOU'RE DEALING WITH?

GUYS.

SHUT UP!

KRAKOOM

I WAS JUST TRYING TO TELL YOU...

...WE'VE GOT COMPANY.

THE GOBLIN! PUMPKIN BOMBS!

GOT TO...

...GET OUT...

...NOW!

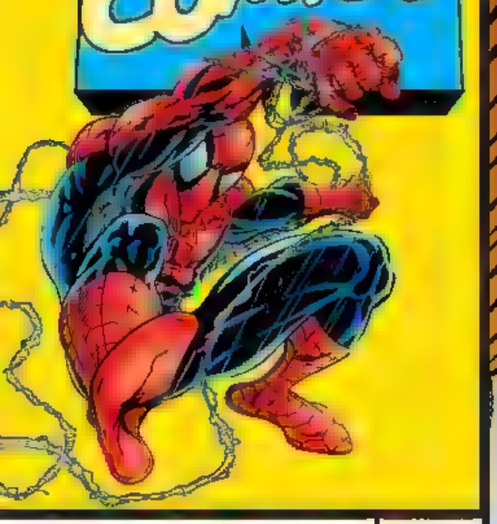
BOOMKRAKKAKOOM

HEEHEEHEEHEEHEEHEE!

GOTCHA!

CONCLUDED IN SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN 255

MARVEL COMICS



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DEMATTEIS
ROSS
GREEN
MILGROM

WANTED
DEAD OR ALIVE
WT: 160

THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN®

SPIDERFLUNT

PART 4

HE'S BEEN DUPED, FRAMED, CHASED, SHOT AT, BEATEN AND BLOWN UP. HIS MASK IS GONE, HIS COSTUME IN TATTERS, THERE'S A HALF A TON OF FLAMING WRECKAGE PRESSING AGAINST HIM.

NOW PETER PARKER ISN'T A MAN WHO'S KNOWN FOR HIS GOOD LUCK -- BUT THIS VERY WELL MAY BE THE **WORST** DAY OF HIS LIFE.

AND HE KNOWS IT'S ONLY GOING TO GET WORSE...

...IF HE LIVES.

HIS WIFE, **MARY JANE**, ISN'T THE KIND OF WOMAN TO INDULGE IN "I TOLD YOU SO'S. BUT THIS IS ONE TIME SHE'D BE TOTALLY JUSTIFIED IF SHE **DID**.

SHE'D URGED HIM, AGAIN AND AGAIN, NOT TO GO OUT IN PUBLIC AS SPIDER-MAN. WITH A **FIVE MILLION DOLLAR** PRICE ON HIS HEAD AND HUNDREDS OF SELF-PROCLAIMED BOUNTY HUNTERS SEEKING THE REWARD...

...STEPPING OUT THE DOOR WAS TANTAMOUNT TO **SUICIDE**.

ADD HEAVY HITTERS LIKE THE **PUNISHER** AND **SHOTGUN** TO THE MIX -- AND IT'S A WONDER PARKER HAS MADE IT **THIS** FAR.

BUT THERE'S A REASON **SPIDER-MAN** HAS SURVIVED THIS ORDEAL -- AND ALL THE MANY THAT HAVE PRECEDED IT. HE IS A HERO DRIVEN, NOT BY A SENSE OF GLORY... BUT A SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY.

AND IT'S RESPONSIBILITY THAT DRIVES HIM **NOW**: THE GRANDSON OF NORMAN OSBORN, THE ORIGINAL **GREEN GOBLIN** -- HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED BY SOMEONE WHO APPEARS TO BE YET **ANOTHER** GOBLIN.

PARKER'S KNOWN THE BOY -- THE SON OF HIS LATE FRIEND **HARRY OSBORN** -- SINCE THE DAY **LITTLE NORMAN** WAS BORN. AND HE REFUSES TO SEE THE OSBORN LEGACY, THE OSBORN **CURSE**, DO TO THAT INNOCENT SOUL WHAT IT DID TO HARRY.

HE'S GOING TO **FIND** NORMIE AND HE'S GOING TO **SAVE** HIM...

EVEN IF HE HAS TO WALK THROUGH THE FIRES OF **HELL** TO DO IT!

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Stan Lee presents: SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

SOME THING GOBLIN THIS WAY COMES...

SPIDER HUNT Part Four

TOM DEFALCO PLOT
JOHN MARC DEMATTEIS SCRIPT
LUKE ROSS PENCILS
DAN GREEN & AL MILGROM INKS
RS & COMICRAFT'S KIT SCHOLL LETTERS
KALISZ/ROCKWITZ & BERNARDO COLORS
RALPH MACCHIO EDITOR
BOB HARRAS EDITOR IN CHIEF

I'LL SAY THIS FOR YOU, WEBS -- YOU'RE A ***FIGHTER.*** ANYONE ELSE WOULDA JUST LAID THERE AND ***DIED.***

LOOK -- HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO ***TELL*** YOU... I DIDN'T KILL ***JOEY Z!*** I WAS SET UP.

I BELIEVE YOU. OSBORN USED ***ME*** WHEN I HAD ***AMNESIA*** -- SET ME UP TO ***KILL*** YOU!

BUT I'M ***NOT*** LETTIN' YOU LEAVE UNTIL I FIND OUT WHAT'S ***REALLY*** GOIN' DOWN HERE!

NOW THAT MY MEMORY'S BACK I WANNA BE FILLED IN. AND YOU'RE THE GUY TO DO IT, WEBS.

FACE IT, CASTLE -- YOU'RE A COLD-BLOODED PSYCHO-KILLER --

-- AND I'M SICK TO ***DEATH*** OF YOU AND YOUR METHODS... EVEN IF YOU'RE NOT OUT TO DO ME IN ***THIS*** TIME.

SWAT

DON'T EVEN ***TRY!***

YOU THINK ***THIS*** WILL STOP ME?

WELL, ACTUALLY -- I ***DO!***

NOW WHY DON'T YOU GET A GOOD ***THERAPIST...*** AND SAVE US ALL A LOT OF ***GRIEF?*** THERE'S GOT TO BE A BETTER WAY TO --

HEY! YOUR LEG!

CAUGHT SOME DEBRIS WHEN THE BUILDING BLEW. WHAT'S IT ***TO*** YOU?

RIGHT. GUY LIKE ME WOULD PROBABLY JUST LET YOU ***BLEED*** TO DEATH. GET SMART. NOT ALL OF US WHO WEAR THE UNION SUIT ARE JUST OUT FOR REVENGE.

WE'RE OUT HERE TO HELP MORE THAN HURT.

THINK ABOUT IT NEXT TIME YOU'RE CLEANING YOUR GUN.

NOW COME ON, Mr. BLOOD AND GUTS --

-- LET'S GET OUTTA HERE BEFORE THE ***REST*** OF THIS PLACE COMES CRASHING DOWN!

OUTSIDE THE WAREHOUSE, POLICE AND FIREFIGHTERS RACE TO THE SCENE...

...ALL OF THEM HOLDING LITTLE HOPE THAT ANYONE COULD HAVE SURVIVED SUCH A DEVASTATING EXPLOSION.

SO IT'S ALL THE MORE SURPRISING...

...WHEN A DETERMINED SPIDER-MAN EMERGES -- CARRYING CASTLE AND THE HANDFUL OF OTHERS TRAPPED BY THE BLAST: MEN WHO, MOMENTS BEFORE, HAD BEEN HUNGRY FOR THE WALL-CRAWLER'S **BLOOD.**

THE POLICE, ON THE OTHER HAND, DON'T WANT SPIDER-MAN DEAD...

...JUST **BEHIND BARS.**

YOU'RE UNDER ***ARREST,*** FREAK!

NOW ARE YOU GONNA COME ***QUIETLY*** OR --

FACT IS, OFFICER --

-- I'M NOT GONNA COME AT ALL!

NOW ISN'T THAT ***NICE?*** THEY'RE SO ***GRATEFUL*** THAT I SAVED ALL THOSE PEOPLE FROM A FLAMING DEATH --

-- THAT THEY'RE GIVING ME A ***TWENTY-ONE GUN SALUTE!***

SIGH THIS IS GETTING ***SERIOUSLY*** DEPRESSING!

"I MEAN -- ISN'T THERE ANYONE OUT THERE ASIDE FROM CASTLE WHO EVEN ENTERTAINS THE IDEA THAT I DIDN'T DO IT?"

PERHAPS NOT. BUT THIS MAN WHO HAS SPENT THE BEST PART OF HIS ADULT LIFE HUNTING KILLERS, ANALYZING THE WARPED CORNERS OF THE CRIMINAL MIND...

...HAS ALREADY SET HIS SIGHTS ON FUTURE PREY.

NORMAN OSBORN LIED TO ME. * AND BECAUSE HE DID...

* IN PETER PARKER #89 -- THE RALFISHER

"...THAT SMIRKING JACKAL'S GONNA FIND HIMSELF IN DEEPER SEWAGE THAN SPIDER-MAN."

THE WEB-SPINNER, MEANWHILE, IS TRYING TO PUT SOME MUCH-NEEDED DISTANCE BETWEEN HIMSELF AND THE LAW. HE WANTS TIME... JUST A FEW MINUTES... TO REST, CLEAR HIS THOUGHTS, PLAN HIS NEXT MOVES.

BUT, AS HIS SUDDENLY-SHRIEKING SPIDER-SENSE MAKES PAINFULLY CLEAR...

... HE'S NOT GOING TO GET IT.

THE GOBLIN!

HE COULD ENGAGE THE KIDNAPPER NOW... BUT, WEAK AND EXHAUSTED AS HE IS, THAT WOULD BE IDIOTIC.

BETTER TO HEAD FOR SAFE GROUND --

-- LEAVING A **SPIDER-TRACER** BEHIND TO MORE DISCREETLY LEAD HIM TO THE GOBLIN'S LAIR.

BLAM

NOW WHAT?!

BANG BANG

BUG!

YOU'RE DEAD --

-- AND *I'M* FIVE MILLION DOLLARS *RICHER.*

YOU JUST *KNOW* THIS NEVER HAPPENS TO *CAPTAIN AMERICA.*

BLAM

BLAM

BLAM

ACROSS THE CITY...

...IN THE PENTHOUSE APARTMENT OF **NORMAN OSBORN**...

...SIX MEN -- SOLDIERS-OF-FORTUNE WHO MAKE THEIR LIVING TRAFFICKING IN BLOOD AND DEATH -- GATHER AROUND A MAN WHO KNOWS THE STINK OF THE GRAVE BETTER THAN **MOST**...

YOU ARE ALL WIDELY KNOWN FOR YOUR SKILLS AT STEALTH... AND VIOLENCE. BUT I THINK THAT, DESPITE YOUR REPUTATIONS, YOU ARE STILL ***MEN***. YOU STILL HAVE ***HEARTS***.

THERE IS A ***CHILD'S LIFE*** AT STAKE HERE, GENTLEMEN. AN INNOCENT BOY WHOSE ONLY CRIME IS THAT HE'S RELATED TO ***ME***.

I WANT MY GRANDSON BACK... I WANT THE MAN WHO TOOK HIM BROUGHT TO JUSTICE... AND THE ONE WHO DOES THAT WILL BE HANDSOMELY PAID.

AND WHILE YOU'RE ***OUT*** THERE, I WANT YOU ALL TO REMEMBER THAT ***SPIDER-MAN*** IS STILL AT LARGE -- AND THAT THE DAILY BUGLE HAS OFFERED A FIVE MILLION DOLLAR ***REWARD*** FOR HIS --

HEY -- IF YOU'RE SO WORRIED ABOUT THE KID... WHY'RE YOU EVEN ***THINKIN'*** ABOUT SPIDER-MAN?

THE QUESTION IS A LOGICAL ONE...

...BUT THE HYPNOTIC GAZE THAT MEETS THE QUESTIONER'S EYES IS SO FILLED WITH RAGE AND LOATHING AND CONTEMPT...

...THAT IT TAKES ALL THE MAN'S WILLPOWER -- JUST TO TURN AWAY.

HE WILL REMEMBER THAT GAZE FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE. LOOKIN' INTO THE DEVIL'S EYES, ***HE'LL SAY LATER***, COULDN'T BE WORSE THAN LOOKIN' INTO HIS.

AND WHILE NORMAN OSBORN CONCLUDES THE BRIEFING...

...HIS DAUGHTER-IN-LAW, LIZ, ANGUISHES OVER HER CHILD'S FATE.

LOOK, LIZZIE -- I KNOW THERE CAN'T BE ANYTHING WORSE THAN HAVIN' YOUR SON TAKEN AWAY FROM YOU LIKE THIS --

-- BUT Mr. OSBORN -- HE'LL GET NORMIE BACK... I ***KNOW*** HE WILL.

I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE PRESIDENT OF THE ***SPIDER-MAN*** FAN CLUB, ***FLASH***.

WHEN DID YOU SWITCH OVER TO ***NORMAN'S?***

LOOK -- YOUR FATHER-IN-LAW GAVE ME A CHANCE... WHEN NOBODY ELSE ***WOULD***. HE KNOWS ABOUT MY ***DRINKING PROBLEM***... BUT HE STILL HIRED ME ON AS HIS ***ASSISTANT***.

YOU ASK ME, THE GUY'S AS BIG A ***HERO*** AS THE WALL-CRAWLER. THEY'RE ***TWO OF A KIND***: MEN WHO'LL PUT THEMSELVES ON THE LINE, TO ***HELP*** OTHER PEOPLE.

AND THEY'VE ***BOTH*** GOTTEN A ***BAD RAP*** BECAUSE OF IT.

HAVE YOU ***FORGOTTEN***, EUGENE -- THAT SPIDER-MAN TRIED TO KILL ME RECENTLY? HARDLY THE ACTIONS OF A MISUNDERSTOOD HERO.

I'M ***TELLING*** YOU, Mr. OSBORN -- THAT ***WASN'T*** SPIDER-MAN. IT ***COULDN'T*** HAVE BEEN! IT MUST'VE BEEN THE ***CHAMELEON*** -- OR THE ***GOBLIN*** IN DISGUISE.

PERHAPS, EUGENE. PERHAPS.

WHATEVER THE CASE, M'BOY, WE HAVE TO ***GO*** NOW. I HAVE MEETINGS WITH THE ***MAYOR*** AND THE ***POLICE COMMISSIONER***.

SPEC. #250 – Recent Ralf.

LIZ -- I KNOW YOU **DOUBT** ME... BUT I SWEAR TO YOU -- I **LOVE** NORMAN. I'D NEVER DO **ANYTHING** TO HURT HIM.

AND I'D SACRIFICE MY OWN LIFE A **THOUSAND TIMES** --

"-- TO GET **HIM BACK.**"

SOMEWHERE IN THE CITY -- THERE IS A **JUNKYARD**...

...A PLACE BUILT OF EQUAL PARTS SCRAP METAL AND DISCARDED DREAMS.

AND IT'S HERE THAT A LITTLE BOY SITS AND WAITS...

KLEIN & WERNER JUNK ASSOCIATES BUY • TRADE • SELL

...AND PLAYS.

THEN --

-- **BAM!** --

-- TH' GREEN GOBLIN **KNOCKS** THE MEAN SPIDER-MAN **RIGHT** OUT THE WINDOW.

LITTLE NORMAN HASN'T HAD AN EASY LIFE. Oh, HE'S BEEN WELL CARED FOR **MATERIALLY.** THE OSBORN WEALTH HAS SEEN TO THAT.

BUT HIS YOUNG EYES HAVE SEEN MORE SUFFERING, MORE MADNESS, THAN MANY SOULS WITNESS IN A LIFETIME.

WATCHING AS YOUR FATHER'S MIND DISINTEGRATES, AS YOUR MOTHER'S HEART BREAKS, AS YOUR FAMILY -- **YOUR WORLD** -- GOES TO PIECES AROUND YOU, LEAVES SCARS THAT EVEN **DECADES** CAN'T ERASE.

AND FOR NORMIE, THE PAIN IS STILL **FRESH**... AND UTTERLY **INCOMPREHENSIBLE.** HE KNOWS HIS FATHER WAS A GOOD MAN... SO WHY DID HE ACT SO BAD? HE KNOWS HIS FATHER LOVED HIM... SO WHY DID HE GO AWAY?

EVER SINCE HARRY OSBORN'S DEATH, NORMIE HAS DREAMED, AGAIN AND AGAIN, THAT HIS FATHER WOULD COME BACK FOR HIM... CARRY HIM OFF TO A PLACE THAT'S THEIR'S ALONE...

HEY! WHATSAT **NOISE?!**

...WHERE TOGETHER -- THEY CAN BE **HAPPY.**

AND NOW, IT SEEMS (AT LEAST TO HIS IMPRESSIONABLE YOUNG MIND)...

...THAT IMPOSSIBLE DREAM -- HAS COME **TRUE.**

KLEIN & WEI
JUNK ASSOCI
BUY • TRADE •

DADDY --?!

LOVE: IT'S THE THING WE ALL SEARCH FOR, **LIVE** FOR. YOUNG AND OLD ALIKE.

TO FIND LOVE... AND LOSE IT... IS PERHAPS THE GREATEST HEARTBREAK A HUMAN BEING CAN SUFFER.

JUST ASK **GREG HERD**, WHO STANDS HELPLESSLY IN A LOWER MANHATTAN HOSPITAL ROOM, WATCHING HIS WIFE, **ANN**, STRUGGLE FOR LIFE.

SHE IS HIS HEART, HIS **SOUL**. SHE IS HIS UNIVERSE. AND NOW SHE'S DYING. BECAUSE OF **HIM**.

IT WAS GREG WHO CONVINCED ANN TO DON THE CYBERNETIC COSTUMES HE'D DESIGNED... TO JOIN THE HUNT FOR SPIDER-MAN AS THE SUPER-POWERED MERCENARIES, **OVERRIDE** AND **AURA**.

HE THOUGHT THE REWARD MONEY WOULD PUT THEM ON EASY STREET. NOW HE FINDS HIMSELF FACING INESTIMABLE MEDICAL BILLS...

...AND EASY STREET SUDDENLY SEEMS LESS IMPORTANT.

NOW THE REWARD MONEY TAKES ON FAR MORE URGENCY.

NOW HE ISN'T JUST **PLAYING**:

HE'S PLAYING FOR **KEEPS**.

AT THAT MOMENT, IN THE FOREST HILLS SECTION OF QUEENS...

...TWO WOMEN ARE GLUED, LIKE MILLIONS OF OTHER NEW YORKERS, TO THEIR TELEVISION SETS -- HORRIFIED AND FASCINATED BY THE FATE OF ONE SMALL BOY.

BUT MARY JANE PARKER ISN'T JUST SOME INTERESTED OBSERVER: SHE **KNOWS** NORMIE OSBORN, KNOWS HIS MOTHER, LIZ, AND -- TO HER ETERNAL REGRET -- THE BOY'S GRANDFATHER, **NORMAN.**

AND EVEN AS SHE AND HER AUNT ANNA WATCH THE SEEMINGLY ENDLESS NEWSCASTS --

-- EVEN AS THEY HEAR ABOUT THE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLAR REWARD OSBORN HAS OFFERED FOR THE BOY'S SAFE RETURN -- SHE CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER WHAT **PART** NORMAN HAS PLAYED IN THE ABDUCTION.

HE APPEARS TO LOVE THE BOY; BUT NORMAN IS THE MASTER OF DECEITFUL APPEARANCES. HE'S A MAN WHO WOULD USE ANY-ONE -- EVEN AN INNOCENT CHILD WHO BEARS HIS NAME -- TO GET WHAT HE WANTS.

BUT THAT BEGS THE QUESTION: WHAT COULD NORMAN **POSSIBLY** GAIN FROM **THIS?**

MARY JANE -- DO YOU THINK IT'S POSSIBLE THAT SPIDER-MAN IS SOMEHOW BEHIND IT?

WHAT?

WELL, HE DID ATTACK Mr. OSBORN A FEW WEEKS AGO. WHAT IF TAKING THAT BOY IS ANOTHER WAY TO GET AT HIM? TO --

Oh, AUNT ANNA, DON'T BE RIDICU --

WUMMP

-- LOUS..?

Oh, MY GOD! THERE'S SOMEONE **UPSTAIRS!**

DON'T PANIC -- IT WAS PROBABLY JUST THE WIND.

NO, MARY JANE -- DON'T GO UP **ALONE! PLEASE!**

"PROBABLY JUST THE WIND." MJ DOESN'T BELIEVE THAT FOR A **SECOND**. NOT AFTER YEARS OF THE PARKERS' PRIVACY BEING INVADED BY THE LIKES OF VENOM, THE VULTURE, THE CHAMELEON, THE GREEN GOBLIN, AND SO MANY OTHERS.

SHE'S AFRAID AS SHE PUSHES OPEN THE ATTIC DOOR -- BUT SHE'S LEARNED NOT TO BE CONTROLLED BY HER FEAR ANYMORE. SHE'S LEARNED TO LOOK IT IN THE EYE... FACE IT DOWN.

Oh, NO.

BUT ONE THING SHE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO ADEQUATELY DEAL WITH...

...IS THIS.

PETER --?

THE SIGHT OF HER HUSBAND, BLOODY, BRUISED AND BEATEN: STAGGERING ACROSS THE ROOM ON TREMBLING LEGS.

TOUGH DAY... AT THE OFFICE, HON. REAL... TOUGH DAY.

ALL SHE WANTS IS TO RUSH TO HIS SIDE, HOLD HIM, HEAL HIM. BUT...

MARY JANE --?

...CIRCUMSTANCES WON'T ALLOW THAT JUST YET.

IT'S... IT'S ALL RIGHT. AUNT ANNA. IT WAS JUST PETER... UP IN THE ATTIC... Ah... DEVELOPING SOME PICTURES.

I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW HE WAS HOME!

Oh, YOU KNOW HOW PETER IS WHEN HE'S WORKING: QUIET AS A MOUSE!

NOW... Um... WHY DON'T WE GO BACK DOWN-STAIRS? I'LL MAKE US ALL SOME LUNCH.

AND, SHE THINKS, AS SOON AS ANNA CALMS DOWN I'LL BE BACK TO TAKE CARE OF YOU, PETER. AND THIS TIME...

...I'M NOT LETTING YOU OUT OF MY SIGHT.

CLARENCE FIELDING ISN'T ACCUSTOMED TO EXCITEMENT. HIS LIFE HAS ALWAYS BEEN MUNDANE, QUIET -- AND HE LIKED IT THAT WAY.

BUT ALL THAT CHANGED WHEN CLARENCE, URGED ON BY DEBT AND UNEMPLOYMENT, DECIDED TO GO AFTER THE REWARD MONEY ON SPIDER-MAN...

LOOK... AH... THERE'S GOT TO BE **SOMETHING** WE CAN DO FOR HIM.

...AND DISCOVERED NOT ONLY THAT HE DIDN'T HAVE THE STOMACH FOR BOUNTY-HUNTING -- BUT THAT HE **LIKED** THE WALL-CRAWLER. **IDENTIFIED** WITH HIM... AND NOW WANTS TO DO EVERYTHING IN HIS POWER TO **HELP** HIM.

JIM006

THE MAN IN THE CADDY DISAGREES.

YOU'RE OUTTA YOUR LEAGUE HERE, FIELDING.

AN' IF YOU THINK **JIMMY 6** IS GONNA TEAM UP WITH YOU T'SAVE SPIDER-MAN'S BUTT... YOU'RE NUTS. WHATEVER DEBT I OWED THAT GUY -- HAS BEEN **PAID OFF.**

NOW GO ON -- GET **OUTTA** HERE. YOU'RE STANDIN' THERE TALKING TO SOMEONE WHO'S GOT HALF THE WISE-GUYS IN THIS CITY AFTER HIM. UNLESS YOU WANNA END UP **SPLATTERED** ACROSS HALFA **BROOKLYN** --

-- I'D SUGGEST YOU **FUGGETABOUT** ME AN' SPIDER-MAN BOTH. **CAPICE?**

FERRARO'S

BALLINGER

HE KNOWS HE **SHOULD** FORGET ABOUT IT. HE KNOWS HE SHOULD CRAWL BACK INTO THE HOLE OF HIS SMALL AND UNEVENTFUL LIFE-WHERE IT'S DULL AND ORDINARY AND EXTREMELY **SAFE.**

HE KNOWS HE **SHOULD**-BUT THE QUESTION IS...

...WILL HE?

MEANWHILE, IN MANHATTAN...

I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE HE QUIT!

...IN THE OFFICES OF THE **DAILY BUGLE**...

...TWO MEN WITH VERY DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES PONDER THE FATE OF A **THIRD.**

I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE SO UPSET ABOUT, **URICH.** SO **JOE ROBERTSON** QUIT? SO **WHAT?**

MORE ROOM FOR GUYS LIKE US T'MOVE UP THE LADDER- IF Y'KNOW WHAT I **MEAN?**

CONOVER, YOU JERK -- MEN LIKE JOE ARE ONE IN A MILLION. JAMESON MAY BE THE BRAINS BEHIND THE BUGLE -- BUT ROBERTSON WAS ITS **SOUL.**

BUT, OF COURSE, YOU COULD NEVER UNDERSTAND THAT SINCE YOU DON'T **HAVE** A SOUL.

JOE ROBERTSON

WHY'RE YOU WASTING TIME ASSAULTING MY CHARACTER -- WHEN YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE **EXONERATING** OSBORN'S.

DIDN'T HE ORDER YOU TO INVESTIGATE THIS **NEW** GREEN GOBLIN -- AND CLEAR THE OSBORN NAME IN THE PROCESS?

YOU IGNORE HIM ON **THIS** ONE, BENJAMIN -- AND I DON'T THINK HE'S GONNA LET YOU SLIDE THE WAY HE DID WITH THE BOOK YOU WROTE ABOUT HIM.

WHICH, BY THE WAY, **PROVES** THAT OSBORN'S A SAINT. ANYONE ELSE WOULDA **FIRED** YOU FOR PUBLISHING A SLANDEROUS PIECE O' JUNK LIKE THAT.

THANKS FOR YOUR OPINION, JAKE -- WHICH, AS EVER, IS ABOUT AS VALUABLE AS A **USED ROLL** OF **TOILET PAPER.**

OOO- AREN'T **WE** TESTY TODAY?

WELL, IF YOU GET ANY INFO ON THE NEW GOBLIN, OLD BUDDY, YOU BE SURE AND SHARE IT WITH YOUR MAIN MAN JAKE, OKAY?

I'M REALLY **INTERESTED** IN THIS ONE.

AND WHY, I WONDER, IS **THAT?**

WHY ARE YOU TWO JUST STANDING AROUND **BLABBERING** LIKE A COUPLE OF LITTLE OLD LADIES?!

OSBORN JUST CALLED FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE -- HE'S ON HIS WAY OVER HERE --

-- AND HE'S GOING TO WANT **EVERYTHING** WE'VE GOT ON HIS GRANDSON'S KIDNAPPING.

DON'T WORRY, BOSS! AT LEAST **ONE** OF US IS ON IT!

IN THE PAST, THE **STACY** FAMILY HAS KNOWN ITS SHARE OF TRAGEDY -- AND TRAGEDY **CONTINUES** TO DOG THEM TO THIS DAY: MOST RECENTLY WITH THE ATTACK ON **ARTHUR** STACY'S DAUGHTER, **JILL** -- WHO IS CURRENTLY RECUPERATING IN A QUEENS HOSPITAL...

...A RECUPERATION THAT IS ANYTHING BUT **RESTFUL** -- THANKS TO THE BILE SPEWING FROM JILL'S BROTHER, **PAUL**...

-- IT WASN'T A **TRICK QUESTION**, DAD: ARE YOU OR ARE YOU **NOT** WORKING FOR THAT MONSTER, NORMAN OSBORN?

BECAUSE, IF YOU ARE -- ANY RESPECT THAT I HAVE FOR YOU WILL HAVE GONE RIGHT OUT THE **WINDOW!**

THERE ARE SOME THINGS, PAUL, THAT I SIMPLY CANNOT DISCUSS WITH YOU.

IN OTHER WORDS -- THE ANSWER IS **YES?**

HE DIDN'T **SAY** THAT.

HE SAID -- IN A MUCH **KINDER** WAY -- THAT IT'S **NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.**

FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE, PAUL, IF YOU DON'T KNOW BY NOW THAT DAD'S A MAN OF **INTEGRITY** --

-- WHAT FAMILY HAVE YOU BEEN **LIVING** IN ALL THESE YEARS?

A FAMILY THAT WAS SHATTERED TO **PIECES** WHEN THE GREEN GOBLIN -- WHO, BY ALL ACCOUNTS, IS NORMAN OSBORN -- **KILLED** MY COUSIN **GWEN.**

BY **SOME** ACCOUNTS, PAUL. IN FACT THE REASON THAT OSBORN APPROACHED ME IN THE **FIRST** PLACE WAS BECAUSE HE WANTS THE **TRUE** GOBLIN EXPOSED.

SO THE DEVIL WHISPERS IN YOUR EAR -- AND YOU **BELIEVE** HIS LIES?

HE DRIVES A **STAKE** THROUGH ALL OUR HEARTS -- AND YOU **LICK HIS BOOTS?**

YOU KNOW, SON -- I'VE OFTEN ADMIRED YOUR WILLFULNESS... IT'S CARRIED YOU THROUGH SOME HARD TIMES --

-- BUT SOME-TIMES YOU ASTONISH ME WITH YOUR INABILITY TO SEE ANY VIEWPOINTS OTHER THAN YOUR **OWN.**

DID YOU EVER THINK THAT I'M NOT BEING WILLFUL? THAT MAYBE I'M TRYING TO SAVE YOU FROM FALLING INTO THE HANDS OF A MASTER MANIPULATOR? OSBORN'S GOT THE POWER TO MAKE YOU -- MAKE **ANY** MAN -- DO --

-- WHATEVER HE **WANTS** HIM TO DO!

DID IT EVER OCCUR TO YOU, DAD -- **THAT I'M TRYING TO PROTECT YOU?!**

SLAM

NO, THEY BOTH REALIZE...

...IT NEVER DID.

WHAT DO YOU ***MEAN*** YOU JUST CAME HOME FOR A QUICK SHOWER AND A SPARE COSTUME?

YOU CAN'T HONESTLY BE THINKING ABOUT GOING ***OUT THERE*** AGAIN?

I HAVE TO, HONEY. I'VE GOT TO FIND ***NORMIE.***

PETER, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE --

-- ***LOOK*** AT YOURSELF!

I'M AS WORRIED ABOUT NORMIE AS YOU ARE -- BUT WHAT GOOD IS IT GOING TO DO HIM IF YOU GET YOURSELF ***KILLED?***

SWEETIE, IF I DON'T DO THIS... AND ANYTHING HAPPENS TO THAT KID... I'D NEVER ***FORGIVE*** MYSELF.

ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT -- I KNOW I HAVEN'T GOT A CHANCE AGAINST THE FAMOUS PARKER ***GUILT.***

I'LL GET YOUR OTHER SUIT. BUT I'M TELLING YOU, PETER -- ONCE YOU FIND THAT BOY, SPIDER-MAN IS BEING ***RETIRED!***

AS LONG AS THAT BOUNTY'S ON YOUR HEAD, THIS COSTUME IS ***CURSED!***

I'D RATHER YOU WENT OUT CHASING CROOKS DRESSED IN A TUTU! I'D RATHER YOU CHANGED YOUR NAME TO THE AMAZING ***GARBAGE*** MAN AND PUT A ***TRASH CAN*** ON YOUR --

-- ***HEAD...***

ZZZZZZZZ

SLEEP, SWEETIE.

FOR A ***LITTLE WHILE,*** AT LEAST.

...THE POLICE COMMISSIONER TALKED A GOOD GAME -- BUT, FRANKLY, I DON'T HAVE MUCH ***CONFIDENCE*** IN LAW ENFORCEMENT.

I WONDER ***WHY?***

I FIND YOUR SARCASM MOST ***INSENSITIVE,*** JONAH.

DO YOU THINK I'D BE MAKING SMUG COMMENTS IF ***YOUR*** SON'S LIFE WAS AT STAKE?

LOOK, NORMAN -- ***OUT THERE*** I'LL PLAY THE LOYAL FRIEND AND SERVILE TOADY. BUT BEHIND CLOSED DOORS LET'S AT LEAST BE ***HONEST.*** I THINK YOU'RE ***POND-SCUM,*** OSBORN --

-- AND I'D BET MY MOTHER'S PENSION THAT ***YOU'RE*** BEHIND THIS SO-CALLED KIDNAPPING.

I APPLAUD YOUR HONESTY, JONAH -- HOWEVER MISGUIDED IT IS. BUT WHATEVER MY SINS -- REAL OR PERCEIVED -- I SWEAR TO YOU THAT I HAD ***NOTHING*** TO DO WITH NORMIE'S ABDUCTION.

WHOEVER THIS PARTICULAR MANIFESTATION OF THE GREEN GOBLIN IS -- HE'S NO PAWN OF ***MINE.***

NOW, AT LEAST FOR THE DURATION OF THIS CRISIS -- CAN'T WE JUST GET ALONG?

"GET ALONG"? WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE --

KRAAASH

-- KIDDING..?!

EXCUSE ME FOR ARRIVING WITHOUT AN ***APPOINTMENT,*** OSBORN --

-- BUT WHEN I HEARD THAT YOU'D OFFERED A HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLAR REWARD FOR THE RETURN OF YOUR GRANDSON, I HAD TO RUSH ***RIGHT*** OVER --

-- TO TELL YOU THAT I THINK YOU'RE A BIGGER CHEAPSKATE THAN *JAMESON* HERE!

I'D SAY THE LIFE OF YOUR ONE SURVIVING HEIR SHOULD BE WORTH AT LEAST -- *TEN MILLION DOLLARS?*

SHAKK

WHAT ARE *YOU* MORONS LOOKING AT?!

GET LOST -- THIS IS A *PRIVATE CONVERSATION* --

-- AND I DON'T WANT *ANY* INTERRUPTIONS!

KOOOM

NOW WHAT WAS I *SAYING?* Oh, YES --

-- TEN MILLION, NORMAN -- DELIVERED TO ME TONIGHT... AT MIDNIGHT -- IN THE CENTER OF THE *BROOKLYN BRIDGE.*

SEEMS AN... *APPROPRIATE* PLACE FOR YOUR HUMILIATION, DON'T YOU THINK?

AND NONE OF THOSE *TRICKS* YOU'RE FAMOUS FOR --

-- OR I SWEAR TO YOU I'LL BREAK YOUR PRECIOUS LITTLE BOY'S *NECK* --

-- AND THEN HANG HIS *LIFELESS BODY* FROM THIS *BUILDING!*

NORMAN--?

...I...

I'M *ALL RIGHT* --

I ALMOST HATE TO SAY THIS, BEN -- BUT IT'S LOOKING MORE AND MORE LIKE WE WERE ***WRONG*** ABOUT OSBORN ALL ALONG.

HE ***CAN'T*** BE THE GOBLIN. THIS ***PROVES IT!***

ANYONE CAN WEAR A COSTUME, ***BETTY.*** AND ANYONE CAN MOUTH EMPTY THREATS.

BUT, MY GOD, THAT MANIAC ALMOST ***KILLED*** HIM!

OR SO IT ***SEEMED.***

I DON'T KNOW, BEN -- LOOK AT THE PANIC IN HIS EYES --

"-- THE MAN'S ***SCARED TO DEATH!"***

JONAH... WE'VE GOT TO CALL THE BANKS. I NEED THAT MONEY... AND I NEED IT ***NOW!***

I-I'LL DO ***ANYTHING*** -- MORTGAGE EVERY-THING I ***OWN*** -- EVEN MY STAKE IN THE BUGLE --!

BUT I'VE ***GOT*** TO HAVE MY GRANDSON BACK -- BEFORE THAT LUNATIC ***HURTS*** HIM!

YEAH. ***SURE,*** NORMAN.

WHATEVER YOU SAY.

FLASH -- WERE YOU ***HERE?*** DID YOU ***SEE*** IT?

NO, I... Ah... I JUST ***STEPPED OUT*** FOR HALF A MINUTE WHEN --

I KNOW THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO'LL STILL SAY THIS IS SOME KIND OF CHARADE -- BUT I SAW THE ***FEAR*** IN OSBORN'S EYES! AND THE ***DESPERATION!***

NO ONE'S GOING TO TELL ME THAT HE DOESN'T ***LOVE*** HIS GRANDSON -- AND THAT HE'S NOT WORRIED ***SICK.***

AND NO ONE'S ***EVER*** GOING TO CONVINCE ME THAT NORMAN OSBORN IS THE GREEN GOBLIN --

-- NOT AFTER ***THIS!***

I'VE ALWAYS ***KNOWN*** HE WAS INNOCENT! AND NOW, FINALLY --

-- THE ***WORLD*** DOES, TOO!

AS WORD OF THE MIDNIGHT RENDEZVOUS AT THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE RIPPLES, IN WHISPERS, ACROSS THE CITY...

...NORMAN OSBORN'S HIRED MERCENARIES PREPARE TO USE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE DOWN THE GOBLIN AND CLAIM THE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLAR REWARD.

AND WHERE THE GOBLIN IS -- CAN **SPIDER-MAN** BE FAR BEHIND?

GREG HERD IS BANKING ON IT. WITH A LITTLE LUCK, HE MUSES, I'LL TAKE DOWN THE GOBLIN AND THE WALL-CRAWLER.

AND THE PRICE OF FAILURE -- IS TOO TERRIBLE TO IMAGINE.

JIMMY 6 IS THINKING ABOUT THE GOBLIN, TOO. HE MADE A VOW, NOT LONG AGO, TO AVENGE THE DEATH OF HIS FRIEND, **BEN REILLY**: TO SEE THAT THE GOBLIN PAID FOR BEN'S MURDER...

...AND, DESPITE THE MOB CONTRACT ON HIS HEAD, IT'S A VOW HE INTENDS TO KEEP.

FRANK CASTLE DOESN'T CARE ABOUT VOWS OR REWARDS. ALL HE CARES ABOUT IS HIS OWN WARPED SENSE OF JUSTICE. THE SCALES OF CRIME AND PUNISHMENT MUST BE BALANCED.

AT THE MOMENT, SPIDER-MAN FALLS INTO A GREY AREA BETWEEN THE TWO... AND THE PUNISHER **HATES** GREY AREAS.

SO HE STRAPS HIS RIFLE ACROSS HIS BACK AND HEADS FOR THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE.

SHOTGUN IS HEADING THERE, TOO... A GOVERNMENT AGENT AND FREELANCE MERCENARY WORKING FOR OSBORN.

HE LAUGHS AT THE IDEA OF JUSTICE. WHAT HE CARES ABOUT IS THE THRILL OF THE CHASE, THE DELIGHT OF THE KILL.

AND THE IDEA OF FIVE MILLION DOLLARS IN HIS BANK ACCOUNT.

CLARENCE FIELDING COULD CERTAINLY USE THE MONEY. HIS BANK BALANCE IS JUST ABOVE ZERO -- AND HIS JOB PROSPECTS AREN'T MUCH BETTER.

BUT THE REWARD ON SPIDER-MAN'S HEAD IS THE FARTHEST THING FROM CLARENCE'S MIND. ALL HE WANTS TO DO IS HELP THE WALL-CRAWLER; BUT IN A WORLD OF HI-TECH WEAPONS, ARMORED COSTUMES, AND SUPER-POWERS...

...WHAT CAN ONE ALL-TOO-ORDINARY MAN **DO?**

PETER PARKER SEES **HIMSELF** AS AN ORDINARY MAN: FLAWED AND FRAGILE AS ANY OTHER. IT'S **EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES,** PETER WOULD ARGUE, THAT TURN AN AVERAGE JOE INTO A HERO...

...AND ALL **MEN** HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO RISE TO THE OCCASION.

MARY JANE KNOWS THAT BENEATH THE MASK AND THE BRAVADO IS A GENTLE, SOUL... NOT VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE SHY, BOOKISH TEENAGER WHO FIRST **BECAME** SPIDER-MAN, ALL THOSE YEARS AGO.

IF ANYTHING HAPPENED TO PETER -- **SHE** WOULD DIE, **TOO**; BECAUSE HE IS EVERYTHING TO HER -- AS SHE IS TO HIM.

THERE'S NOTHING SHE WOULDN'T DO TO PROTECT HIM, TO PROTECT THEIR FAMILY. THEIR LOVE.

AND SHE WANTS, WITH ALL HER HEART, TO LET HIM SLEEP -- SAFE AND WARM, OUT OF HARM'S WAY.

BUT SHE CAN'T. SHE KNOWS THAT **THESE** EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES **DEMAND** PETER'S ATTENTION...

...AND THAT, AS MUCH AS IT BREAKS HER HEART -- LITTLE NORMAN NEEDS **SPIDER-MAN...**

MIDNIGHT.

...AS MUCH AS SHE NEEDS **PETER PARKER.**

SEVERAL YEARS AGO, PETER'S THEN-GIRLFRIEND **GWEN STACY** FELL TO HER DEATH FROM THIS BRIDGE -- **PUSHED** FROM THE TOWER...

...BY NORMAN OSBORN'S HAND.

THE IRONY DOESN'T ESCAPE HIM.

...WE GOT THE BRIDGE BLOCKED OFF ON BOTH SIDES, Mr. OSBORN. ZAT THE **RANSOM** THERE IN THE BAG?

AS MUCH OF IT AS I COULD **RAISE.**

I'M AFRAID I'M GOING TO HAVE TO DO SOME... ***NEGOTIATING*** WITH MY GREEN FRIEND --

-- IF I EVER HOPE TO SEE NORMIE AGAIN.

Y'KNOW -- I'VE HEARD A LOT O' ***ROTTEN THINGS*** ABOUT THAT GUY --

-- BUT IT TAKES A ***BRAVE MAN*** T'FACE THE GOBLIN ALONE THIS WAY.

Y'ASK ME --

"-- THE GUY'S A ***HERO.***"

ALL RIGHT. I KNOW YOU'RE HERE SOMEWHERE -- HOVERING IN THE SHADOWS. WATCHING. WAITING.

I'VE GOT YOUR ***BLOOD MONEY,*** YOU MANIAC, SO ***SHOW*** YOURSELF!

AND GIVE ME BACK MY GRANDSON!

YOUR GRANDSON? YOU KNOW, NORMAN -- I'VE BEEN THINKING --

-- FROM ALL I'VE READ ABOUT YOU, I DON'T THINK YOU'RE ***FIT*** TO RAISE SUCH A SWEET, SENSITIVE CHILD.

REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED TO POOR OLD ***HARRY?*** POPPED HIS CORK AND ENDED UP AS WORMFOOD --

-- AND, BY ALL ACCOUNTS, IT WAS ***YOUR FAULT.***

SO I THINK I'LL KEEP THE MONEY -- ***AND*** THE BOY --

-- AND *KILL YOU* IN THE *PROCESS!*

SOMETHING'S WRONG -- IT LOOKS LIKE THE GOBLIN'S GOING AFTER *OSBORN!*

RADIO THE OTHER SIDE -- TELL 'EM T'MOVE IN... *NOW!*

COME ALONG, NORMAN --

I THINK I'LL *PLAY* WITH YOU A LITTLE WHILE... BEFORE I FINISH YOU *OFF!*

GAME FOR A LITTLE *TORTURE*, Mr.O? HEAVEN KNOWS, YOU CERTAINLY ENJOY DISHING IT OUT!

AND AS FOR *YOU*, MY IMPOTENT MEN IN BLUE --

EAT PUMPKN!

BAM! *BAM!* *BAM!*

HE'S BEEN HIDING UNDER THE BRIDGE LONG ENOUGH; TIME, HE DECIDES, TO GRAB THE GOBLIN BY THE TAIL.

SPIDER-MAN STILL THINKS THAT NORMAN IS BEHIND THIS SOMEHOW; BUT PART OF HIM HOPES THAT HE'S **NOT** -- THAT HE'S REALLY AS TERRIFIED AS HE **APPEARS.**

IF ANY MAN ALIVE DESERVES TO SUFFER, HE THINKS, **TO BE UTTERLY BROKEN, IT'S OSBORN...**

...BUT IF THE **COST** OF THAT IS LITTLE NORMIE'S LIFE -- THEN IT'S **WAY** TOO HIGH.

WHICH MEANS IT'S TIME TO DO WHAT HE ALWAYS DOES: THE RIGHT THING.

STAGED KIDNAPPING OR REAL, *HE DETERMINES,* I'M GONNA SAVE **OSBORN'S** BUTT --

-- **KICK** THE GOBLIN'S --

-- AND THEN FIND NORMIE -- AND GET HIM HOME WHERE HE BELONGS!

HEY -- LOOK! IT'S **SPIDERMAN!**

FIGURES! HE'S PROBABLY IN ON THIS **WITH** THE GOBLIN!

Y'KNOW, FOR A WHILE THERE I WAS READY T'GIVE HIM THE BENEFIT OF **THE DOUBT** --

"-- BUT I GUESS THE BUM REALLY **HAS** GONE BAD!"

THANKS FOR YOUR **SUPPORT,** OFFICER --

-- YOU DON'T KNOW HOW MUCH IT **MEANS** TO ME!

JERK!

Ah, *HE FUMES,* I CAN'T BLAME HIM! WITH ALL THE LIES AND INNUENDOS GOING AROUND ABOUT SPIDER-MAN...

...IT'S A WONDER I DON'T HATE ME!

THAT'S IT, BUG. YOU KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE GOBLIN, WHILE I KEEP MY EYE ON --

-- WE NEED TO HAVE A LITTLE CHAT.

-- YOU..!

KLIK

SHOTGUN --

I'M IN NO POSITION TO ARGUE --

AND WHILE FRANK CASTLE SPEAKS HIS MIND...

...CLARENCE FIELDING FINDS HIMSELF WATCHING A **NEWS REPORT** CONCERNING THE MELEE AT THE BRIDGE.

IT SEEMS THAT SPIDER-MAN AND THE GREEN GOBLIN ARE HEADING INTO BROOKLYN.

DESTINY -- IS COMING CLARENCE'S WAY...

KALIST AND THE AMAZING COLORS

SONY

SAVE 40%

...AND THIS IS ONE TIME HE'S NOT GOING TO LET IT GET **PAST** HIM.

OVERRIDE FEELS THE SAME WAY.

IT WON'T TAKE MUCH, *HE CONVINCES HIMSELF*. IF I MOVE QUICKLY ENOUGH I CAN TAKE THEM BOTH OUT.

BUT EVEN AS CYBERNETIC CIRCUITS HUM TO LIFE, EVEN AS HE CONCENTRATES -- OVERRIDING THE CENTRAL SYSTEM OF THE GOBLIN'S GLIDER...

...HE DOUBTS HIMSELF.

*WHAT HAPPENED TO ANNIE... WHAT **HE DID** TO ANNIE... HAS SHATTERED HIS SELF-CONFIDENCE...*

BUT WATCHING THE GOBLIN FALL...

*...HE REALIZES THAT IT'S **BECAUSE** OF ANNIE THAT HE **HAS** TO SUCCEED.*

HE SEES THE WALL-CRAWLER SOMERSAULT THROUGH THE WINDOW -- AND ALLOWS HIMSELF A COLD SMILE. YOU'RE FINISHED, *HE THINKS,* BOTH OF YOU. I'M GOING TO TAKE YOU APART AND I'M GOING TO DO IT...

...FOR *HER.*

...SAY, SNACKY -- WHY DON'T YOU DO US BOTH A FAVOR AND GIVE UP *NOW?*

THIS WAY WE CAN SAVE THE CITY A FEW MILLION DOLLARS IN *PROPERTY DAMAGE!*

FTOOM FTOOM

THE GOBLIN SURRENDERS TO NO MAN --

-- *LEAST* OF ALL SOMEONE WHO USES THE WORD *"SNACKY!"*

I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS ABOUT THAT WORD THAT SEEMS TO *ANNOY* PEOPLE SO MUCH! MAYBE I SHOULD --

FTOOM FTOOM

HEY! WHAT'S WITH THE BODY PARTS FLYING ALL OVER THE PLACE?

AS I LIVE AND BREATHE -- WE'RE IN A *MANNEQUIN FACTORY!*

HOW AM I *EVER* GONNA BE ABLE TO TELL THE GOBLIN FROM THE *OTHER* DUMMIES?

YOU IDIOT -- ALL YOU'RE DOING IS ENDANGERING NORMIE!

GET *OUT* OF HERE -- AND LET ME *NEGOTIATE* WITH HIM!

YOUR CONCERN COULDN'T BE MORE TOUCHING IF IT WERE *REAL,* NORMAN!

AND, BY THE WAY, YOUR NEW GOBLIN ISN'T HALF AS GOOD AS *YOU* ARE --

MAYBE YOU'D BETTER SEND HIM BACK TO THE SHOP FOR *REPAIRS!*

TAK

YOU THINK -- *I* WORK FOR *HIM!?*

THE GREEN GOBLIN ANSWERS TO NO MAN!

FRAKKAFRAKKAFRAKKA

ESPECIALLY NOT THAT CRAVEN, MANIPULATING ***SWINE!***

Ah! THE POWER SEEMS TO HAVE ***RETURNED*** TO MY GLIDER --

-- WHICH MEANS I CAN LEAVE BOTH OF YOU PATHETIC MORONS BEHIND --

-- AND DEAL WITH THE BOY!

SPIDER-MAN... ***PLEASE***...THIS IS ONE TIME... WE HAVE TO PUT THE PAST BEHIND US! ***WHATEVER*** OUR QUARRELS HAVE BEEN... HOWEVER MUCH WE ***LOATHE*** EACH OTHER --

-- MY GRANDSON'S LIFE IS AT STAKE! ***PLEASE*** -- I'M ***BEGGING*** YOU --

-- ***STOP*** THE GOBLIN AND BRING MY BOY ***BACK*** TO ME!

THOSE WORDS -- AND THE DESPERATION THAT RESONATES THROUGH THEM -- RING IN SPIDER-MAN'S EARS...

...AND FOR THE FIRST TIME -- HE WONDERS IF HE HASN'T MISREAD THE SITUATION.

AND THE MAN.

NOW WHERE DID I PUT THAT STUPID --

-- BAG?

WHO THE *DEVIL* ARE *YOU?!*

RIGHT HERE, Mr. OSBORN.

RIGHT HERE.

AND WHILE GREG HERD MAKES THE NECESSARY INTRODUCTION...

... A BREATHLESS CLARENCE FIELDING BOLTS DOWN A BROOKLYN STREET -- IN PURSUIT OF A FLYING DEMON...

J. KLEIN & R. WERNER JUNKYARD

... SUDDENLY REALIZING THAT, IF THIS IS WHERE THE GOBLIN HAS BEEN HIDING...

... THEN THE MISSING BOY MUST BE HERE, TOO.

KLEIN & WERNER JUNK AS OCIATES B . V . TRADE . SE L

BUT CLARENCE ISN'T THE ONLY ONE WHO'S COME TO THAT CONCLUSION --

WHERE *IS* HE?

WHERE'S NORMIE?

THWAMM

KRAAK

WHAT IF I TOLD YOU HE WAS *DEAD?*

WHAT IF I TOLD YOU THAT I SLIT HIS *THROAT* -- JUST A FEW *HOURS* AFTER I SNATCHED HIM?

WHAT WOULD YOU SAY THEN?!

NO WORDS CAN DO JUSTICE TO SPIDER-MAN'S RAGE...

*...OR TO THE HORROR THAT OVERWHELMS HIM AS HE CONSIDERS THE POSSIBILITY OF LITTLE NORMAN'S **DEATH**.*

AND THEN -- ALL TOO QUICKLY HE HAS TO...

SPIDER-SENSE -- KICKING IN *BIG-TIME!*

...CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF HIS OWN.

KRAKOOOM

KTLANG

FODA

THAT BULLET WASN'T MEANT FOR ME -- IT WAS MEANT FOR THE *GOBLIN!* BUT --

-- *WHO DID IT?!*

IN AN ALLEY THAT BORDERS THE JUNKYARD...

*...JIMMY 6 PRAYS THAT BEN REILLY IS RESTING **EASIER** NOW...*

... EVEN AS THE SOUND OF COCKING GUNS MAKES IT CLEAR...

DAILY SPIDE

WANTED

DAILY GLOBE

...THAT -- IN A MATTER OF SECONDS -- HE MAY BE RESTING RIGHT **BESIDE** REILLY.

WELL, IF IT AIN'T ***GIACOMO FORTUNATO.*** GOTTA ***THANK YOU,*** JIMMY.

NOW WE CAN COLLECT ON THE GOBLIN, SPIDER-MAN -- ***AND*** YOU.

AHEM

WHY DON'T YOU MAGGOTS DROP YOUR GUNS -- AND GET YOUR FAT BUTTS BACK AGAINST THE WALL?

Y'SEE, MY PAL THE PUNISHER -- HE CONVINCED ME T'LAY ***OFF*** SPIDER-MAN. AN' JIMMY HERE -- WELL, WE GO ***WAY*** BACK.

Oh... ***GEEZ!***

SO THAT MEANS THE ONLY WAY THIS EVENING AIN'T GONNA BE A TOTAL BUST -- IS IF I COLLECT WHATEVER REWARDS ARE POSTED ON THE SIX OF ***YOU.***

AN' FELLAS, I CAN DO IT DEAD OR ALIVE --

"-- IT'S ALL THE SAME ***T'ME.***"

STILL ***KICKING,*** GOBLIN?!

YOU THINK MY ARMOR COULDN'T PROTECT ME FROM A ***BULLET?***

PLEASE! I MAY BE A LUNATIC -- BUT I'M NOT ***STUPID!*** NOW DO ME A FAVOR, WILL YOU --

KRAKOOM

"AND DIE!"

THE OFFICE, CLARENCE THINKS. THE GOBLIN WAS HEADING FOR IT, BEFORE SPIDER-MAN CUT HIM OFF.

COULD THAT BE WHERE THE BOY IS? AND IF IT IS...

...IS HE ALIVE?

THE ANSWER TO BOTH QUESTIONS, THANK GOD...

...IS YES.

NOBODY'S DYING HERE TODAY, GOBLIN! NOT ME, NOT NORMIE -- NOT EVEN YOU!

AT LEAST NOT TILL I FIND OUT WHO YOU ARE --

-- AND WHO PUT YOU UP TO THIS!

BUT IF YOU UNMASK ME... THAT WILL DESTROY THE MYSTIQUE... THE MYSTERY... THE SUSPENSE!

AND WHERE'S THE FUN IN THAT?

THOOM

KLEIN & WERNER JUNK AS OCIATES B Y • TRADE • SE L

LEGGO O' ME, YA BIG DUMMY!

NORMIE --?

I WANNA STAY HERE WITH MY DADDY!

"DADDY"?!

THE THOUGHT SEEMES ABSURD, EVEN AS IT FORMS IN HIS MIND: **COULD** THIS GOBLIN BE **HARRY** OSBORN... BACK FROM THE GRAVE?

BUT HE WAS **WITH** HARRY WHEN HE DIED! HE WAS THERE WHEN THEY **BURIED** HIM!

RIGHT, *HE THINKS.* JUST LIKE THEY BURIED NORMAN.

SHAKKK

WHOEVER HE IS, *SPIDER-MAN DECIDES,* I'VE GOT TO KEEP HIM BUSY.

THOOM

GIVE CLARENCE TIME TO GET THE KID OUT OF HERE.

THAKK

Oh, MY! I SEE SOMEBODY'S WALKING OFF WITH MY ***PROPERTY!***

I'M AFRAID I CAN'T ***ALLOW*** THAT!

FWUKK

I HOPE YOU WILL PARDON ME IF I WRAP THIS UP ***QUICKLY*** -- STRANGLE THE LIFE OUT OF YOU AND GET ON WITH MY ***DAY!***

GO TO THE DEVIL --

TOOM

-- ***SNACKY!***

GO TO THE DEVIL? WHY, SPIDER-MAN -- DON'T YOU *GET* IT YET?

I AM THE DEVIL!

YOU'RE A *JERK!*

TOKK

KRANG

THAT DOES IT!

NOW --

-- YOU'VE MADE ME --

-- MAD..?

KRAKA-THOOM

GOBLIN!

HE COULDN'T PULL OUTOF HIS DIVE IN TIME! WHOEVER HE WAS, HE'S --

-- GONE..!

OR SO IT APPEARS. IN A WORLD WHERE SUPER-VILLAINS HAVE A HABIT OF RETURNING WITH DISTURBING REGULARITY...

... PETER PARKER HAS LEARNED TO TAKE **NOTHING** FOR GRANTED.

...IT IS WITH GREAT RELIEF... AND GREATER EXHILARATION... THAT I WELCOME MY GRANDSON ***HOME.***

HIS MOTHER AND I ARE PROFOUNDLY GRATEFUL FOR THE OUTPOURING OF SUPPORT AND SYMPATHY THAT HAS HELPED SUSTAIN US THROUGHOUT THIS NIGHT-MARE.

THE PEOPLE OF NEW YORK CITY HAVE TRULY TOUCHED OUR ***HEARTS.***

BUT PERHAPS OUR GREATEST GRATITUDE IS RESERVED FOR TWO MEN WHO ARE THE ***GENUINE HEROES*** OF THIS MEMORABLE DAY --

-- ***GREG HERD***... WHO, AS OVERRIDE, SAVED ME FROM THE GOBLIN'S CLUTCHES --

-- AND ***CLARENCE FIELDING***... WHO, WITHOUT BENEFIT OF ENHANCED ARMOR OR SUPER-POWERS... RISKED HIS LIFE -- TO SAVE MY LITTLE BOY.

EACH OF THESE MEN WILL RECEIVE ***ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS*** FOR HIS EFFORT --

-- AND GREG -- LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT YOUR POOR WIFE'S ***MEDICAL CARE*** WILL BE COMPLETELY TAKEN CARE OF... BY ***ME.***

ANN HERD WILL LACK FOR ***NOTHING.***

SHE, LIKE MY GRANDSON, WILL ***SURVIVE.***

WELL, IF I STAND HERE ANY LONGER -- I'LL PROBABLY ***PUKE.***

YOU DON'T ***BELIEVE*** HIM, BEN?

WHAT DO ***YOU*** THINK?

Y'KNOW, MJ -- I'M NOT SURE ***WHAT*** TO BELIEVE. IF OSBORN WAS ACTING -- IT WAS THE PERFORMANCE OF A ***LIFETIME.***

EITHER WAY -- HE'S ***STILL*** THE MOST TWISTED, ***DESPICABLE*** HUMAN BEING ON TWO FEET.

TRUE. ***TRUE.*** AND THANKS TO HIM -- SPIDER-MAN CAN'T SHOW HIS FACE ***ANYWHERE*** IN THIS CITY.

SO -- WHAT DO I DO NOW?

ACTUALLY --

-- I'VE GOT A FEW ***IDEAS.***

A Nowhere Place!

HOW FORTUITOUS FOR YOU, YOUNG MAN -- THAT WE HAD AN ESCAPE PLAN IN PLACE --

-- OR NOT EVEN MY MINISTRATIONS WOULD HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SAVE YOU FROM BEING ***CREMATED*** IN THAT EXPLOSION.

AS IT IS, I'VE HAD TO GROW SOME NEW LAYERS OF ***SKIN*** -- REPAIR SOME DAMAGED ***NERVES*** --

-- BUT, TO THE NAKED EYE -- YOU ARE AS GOOD AS ***NEW.***

AND WE HAVE THE REGENERATING FACTOR IN MY ***GOBLIN FORMULA*** TO THANK FOR ***THAT,*** DON'T WE --

-- ***DOCTOR ANGST?***

Ah... Mr. OSBORN -- YOU ***STARTLED*** ME.

I STARTLE ***EVERYONE,*** MUELLER.

REMOVE THE COSTUME, DOCTOR. IT'S TIME TO RETIRE THE GREEN GOBLIN -- FOR THE ***MOMENT***.

HE'S CERTAINLY SERVED YOUR PURPOSES ***WELL***, Mr. OSBORN.

Oh, YES. AND HE WILL ***CONTINUE*** TO DO SO. FOR ***SOME TIME***.

THINGS DIDN'T WORK OUT ***EXACTLY*** AS I PLANNED -- OVERRIDE AND THAT PASTY LITTLE MAN FIELDING WERE UNEXPECTED INTRUSIONS -- BUT I'VE ALWAYS PRIDED MYSELF ON TURNING THE UNEXPECTED TO MY ***ADVANTAGE***.

IN THE END MY IDENTIFICATION WITH THE GREEN GOBLIN HAS BEEN ***BROKEN*** -- THE PUBLIC'S ***SYMPATHY*** CONTINUES TO BE ***SWEPT*** IN MY DIRECTION -- AND ***SPIDER-MAN*** REMAINS A ***WANTED CRIMINAL***.

THEN I PLAYED MY PART ***WELL***?

TO PERFECTION.

YOU'VE MADE ME VERY ***PROUD***, M'BOY.

VERY PROUD.

NEXT: *Through the Looking Glass!*

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THE SENSATIONAL

SPIDER-MAN®

PRELUDE

WHEN SANDMAN AND HYDRO-MAN TEAM UP, SPIDEY'S NAME IS MUD!

THE PARKER HOUSEHOLD --

-- WHERE **ANNA WATSON** ENGAGES HER YOUNG FRIEND, AND NEIGHBOR, **HOPE HIBBERT**, IN SOME EARLY-MORNING, BEFORE-SCHOOL **SIGNING** PRACTICE.

OKAY, THAT'S *'WOMAN'*, **NOW** SHOW ME *'MAN'*...

DAILY BUGLE

SPIDEY SUSPECT IN KIDNAPPING

VERY GOOD, SWEETHEART. SEE, AND YOU KEPT TELLING ME THAT THIS WAS GOING TO BE ***BORING*** AND ***UNNECESSARY.***

GOOD MORNING, PETER.

MORNING, ANNA, MORNING HOPE.

HAS ANYONE SEEN MY BLACK BAG?

DAILY BUGLE

SPIDEY SUSPECT IN KIDNAPPING

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PETER... HOPE SAYS THAT YOU HAVE TO ***SIGN*** YOUR GOOD MORNING TO HER.

Oh... YEAH... RIGHT... OKAY...

GOOD. MORNING. HOPE. I. HOPE. YOU. HAVE. A. NICE. DAY.

HAHAHAHAHA! PETER, YOU JUST SIGNED, 'MY ***HEAD*** IS FULL OF ***BACON.***'!

Er... WELL, YEAH... I KNEW THAT.

ARE YOU DONE WITH THIS MORNING'S ***BUGLE,*** AUNT ANNA?

YES, DEAR, BE MY ***GUEST.***

DAILY BUGLE

NEW YORK'S FINEST DAILY NEWSPAPER

SPIDEY

GOTTA ***RUN!*** SEE YOU GIRLS ***LATER!***

ALL RIGHT, YOUNG LADY... LET'S TRY SOME OF THE ***HARD ONES*** NOW..!

HOPEY..? WHAT'S THE ***MATTER,*** DEAR?

SPIDER..?

SPIDER..? Oh, ***SPIDER-MAN?!***

YES, HONEY, I ***KNOW...***

...SPIDER-MAN'S ***BAD.***

STAN LEE PRESENTS THE SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN

CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS?

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

RIZE
NSIDE

BUGLE

NEW YO INEST DAILY NEWSPAPER

SPIDEY SUSPECT IN KIDNAPPING

STORY BY VIVIENNE FITZGERALD

PHOTO BY PETER PARKE

TODD DEZAGO english
TODD NAUCK & ANDREW HENNESSEY art
RS & COMICRAFT'S
KIFF SCHOLL calligraphy
GREGORY WRIGHT chromatic interpretaion
RALPH MACCHIO editor
BOB HARRAS detention monitor

PETER!

IT USED TO BE THAT ***JONAH*** WAS THE ONE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EDITORIAL ***LAMBASTING*** SPIDEY WOULD FACE ALL THE TIME IN THE BUGLE --

-- BUT NOW THAT ***NORMAN OSBORN*** HAS ***SLITHERED*** INTO A CONTROLLING POSITION AT THE PAPER, HE USES IT ***EVERY CHANCE*** HE GETS TO DIS SPIDER-MAN!

I MEAN, HE ACCUSES ME OF BEING IN ON HIS OWN GRANDSON'S ***KIDNAPPING*** --

Sue Gee

*AS SEEN LAST ISH, IN **SPIDERHUNT PART 1** – Ransomed Ralf.

-- EVEN THOUGH THEY HAVE ***ACTUAL VIDEO TAPE*** OF THE ***GREEN GOB***-

Y'KNOW SOMETHING, PETER...

I DON'T ***CARE*** ANYMORE! I'M ***SICK*** OF IT -- ***ALL*** OF IT!

I'M SICK OF ALL THE GARBAGE WITH THE ***BUGLE***, OF NORMAN OSBORN AND HIS ***MALICIOUS*** LITTLE ***MACHIAVELLIAN*** GAMES, OF THIS INSANE ***BOUNTY*** ON YOUR HEAD --

-- AND YES... I'M EVEN SICK OF ***SPIDER-MAN!***

I MEAN, WHEN DO WE GET A ***BREAK?***

C'MON, LET'S GO. WE'RE GONNA MISS THE ***BUS.***

SEE YA, AUNT ANNA. BYE, HOPE.

YOU TWO HAVE A NICE DAY.

MARY JANE, ALL I ***MEANT*** WAS --

PETER, I ALREADY ***TOLD*** YOU --

-- I ***DON'T*** WANT TO HEAR IT!

MEANWHILE --

-- IN A SEEDY, TWO-BIT RENTED ROOM IN THE **BRONX** --

ROOMS

-- WHERE WE FIND THE ALWAYS MERCENARY **MORRIE BENCH**, AKA, THE NOTORIOUS **HYDRO-MAN** ENJOYING A LEISURELY BATH...

...ACTUALLY, HE **IS** THE BATH..!

HAVING DISCOVERED YEARS EARLIER, FOLLOWING A **BIZARRE MARITIME ACCIDENT**, THAT HIS ENTIRE BODY HAD TAKEN ON A NEW STATE -- THAT OF A **LIVING LIQUID!**

SPIDER-MAN STRIKES AGAIN!

DAILY BUGLE

JEEZ, WHAT'D I EVEN GO TO SAN FRAN FOR?! THE DAILY BUGLE'S OFFERIN' **5 MIL** T'ANYONE WHO CAN BRING DOWN **SPIDER-MAN** --

-- AN' I JUST DID IT A COUPLE A' WEEKS AGO ***FER FREE!***

WITH FIVE MILLION, I'LL BE LIVIN' LARGE FOR A ***GOOD LONG TIME!*** AN' ALL I GOTTA DO IS ***'TSUNAMI'*** THAT STUPID WALL CRAWLER -- WHICH I'D GLADLY DO FER NOTHIN'!

BUT THE PROBLEM WITH THAT SPIDER-HEAD IS THAT YA ***NEVER*** KNOW WHERE HE'S GONNA SHOW... GOTTA DO SOMETHIN' T'GET HIS ***ATTENTION***, DRAW HIM ***OUT***...

Oh, YEAH -- ***THAT'S*** IT...

SHOOOOOOSH

DA

SPIDE

SUSPECT IN

IDNAPPIN

THE SYMKARIAN EMBASSY IN NEW YORK --

--WHERE WE FIND **SILVER SABLE**, THE SYMKARIAN AMBASSADOR AND LEADER OF THE ELITE CRIMINAL RETRIEVAL UNIT, **THE WILD PACK** --

-- ALONG WITH HER TEAMMATE AND CONFIDANT, THE EVER-SHIFTING **SANDMAN** --

NEW ALLEGATIONS THAT **IMPLICATE** SPIDER-MAN IN THE RECENT **OSBORN** KIDNAPPING --

I DUNNO, SABE -- D'YA THINK SPIDER-MAN'S ***REALLY*** DOIN' ALLA THESE THINGS?!

I MEAN, I KNOW BETTER'N ANYONE WHAT IT'S LIKE T'TRY AN' CHANGE YER REP --

-- THE PAPERS MAKE YA OUT T'BE ***WHATEVER THEY LIKE***. BUT ***MURDER? KIDNAPPING?***

THAT DON'T SOUND LIKE SPIDEY ***T'ME!***

KIFF

WELL, THE SPIDER-MAN I KNOW WOULD HAVE ***NOTHING TO DO*** WITH ANY OF THOSE THINGS. BUT ***MAYBE***...

...WE SHOULD GO AND SEE IF ***THIS*** IS THE SPIDER-MAN I ***KNOW!***

LATER THAT DAY AT THE NEW YORK DAILY BUGLE --

YO, PETE! WHERE WERE YOU THE OTHER NIGHT..? I WAITED OUTSIDE THE THEATER FOR LIKE --

D'OH!

MAN, BILLY -- I'M SORRY, I *TOTALLY* FORGOT!

I GOT SO CAUGHT UP IN THAT *OSBORN KIDNAPPING* STORY THAT IT JUST SLIPPED MY MIND! I -

DUDE, IT'S *OKAY*... ALTHOUGH YOU *DID* MISS AN EXCELLENT FLICK.

...*HIJACKED* A BUSLOAD OF PEOPLE...

...TO THE COPY EDITOR...

HEY, LET ME MAKE IT *UP* TO YOU... WE HIT THE *GRIND* FOR LUNCH! I'LL BUY!

DUDE, *YES!* THERE IS THIS *SWEET* NEW WAITRESS DOWN THERE AND I'M TELLIN' YA --

-- SHE *WILL* BE *MINE*.

PETER PARKER?

Uh...PETE? YO, DUDE...

WHAT'S THE FREQUENCY, *KENNETH..?*

...RIGHT OVER HERE...

Huh? Oh, SORRY BILL... I WAS JUST... ***WONDERING*** WHO THAT --

DUDE, THAT'S HER! THAT'S THE CHICK THAT'S BEEN SCOPIN' FOR YA!*

*SEE SENSATIONAL'S #21 & 24 – Scopin' Ralf.

Oh, MAN -- YA GOTTA INTRODUCE ME.

HI. I'M PETER PARKER. I UNDERST-

WAIT I ***KNOW*** YOU, ***DON'T*** I?

DESIREE, WASN'T IT?

WAS, AND STILL ***IS.*** THAT'S A GOOD ***MEMORY*** YOU HAVE THERE, PETER, SEEING AS WE ONLY ***MET*** THAT ***ONE TIME.***

SO WHAT BRINGS YOU UP ***HERE*** TO THE ALWAYS IMPRESSIVE CITY ***ROOM*** OF THE DAILY BUGLE?

...AWAITING CONFIRMATION, BUT THEY THINK IT'S THAT HYDRO-MAN GUY!

WELL, ACTUALLY -- *YOU* DO.

I HAVEN'T *SEEN* YOU SINCE... WELL... SINCE *BEN DIED*...

...SINCE THEN, I'VE... WELL, I'VE *DISCOVERED* SOMETHING ABOUT MYSELF. THIS IS GOING TO SOUND SO *ODD* -- I DON'T WANT TO CALL IT *PSYCHIC* OR ANYTHING, BUT I...

...IT'S LIKE, I... *KNOW* THINGS...

Er... WHAT, Uh... WHAT *KIND* OF THINGS..?

...ISSUED A STATEMENT THAT UNLESS *SPIDER-MAN* SHOWS WITHIN THE HOUR...

BACK IN THE CONTROVERSIAL 'REVELATIONS' STORYLINE. *SPIDER-MAN* #75 – Recallin' Ralf.

LIKE, THINGS I *SHOULDN'T*. PETER, I... I *FELT* IT WHEN BEN DIED. LIKE I WAS *WITH* HIM...

...I KNOW HOW *CLOSE* YOU AND HE WERE, THAT'S WHY I'M HOPING YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP ME WITH THESE... I DON'T KNOW... *FEELINGS*. HELP ME *UNDERSTAND* THEM...

...I KNOW THAT HE DIED A HERO, TRYING TO HELP *SPIDER-MAN*, BUT I DON'T -

...START *DROWNING* THEM ONE BY ONE!

UM,LISTEN,DESIREE.I'MSORRYABOUTTHIS. ANDIREALLYDOWANTTOTALKTOYOUABOUT IT,REALLY,BUTIJUSTREMEMBERED SOMETHINGTHATIFORGOTTODO, UM,URGENT...

I *PROMISE*, I'LL MAKE IT *UP* TO YOU.

BUT --

GET USED TO IT. HE DOES IT TO ME *ALL THE TIME*.

AND A SHORT TIME LATER --

-- IN A SECTION OF THE BRONX KNOWN AS PARKCHESTER --

-- WHERE, HAVING TAKEN **HOSTAGE** A BUSLOAD OF CIVILIANS AND **COMMANDEERED** A COMMUNITY WATER TOWER IN WHICH TO KEEP THEM --

-- HYDRO-MAN MAKES HIS **STAND!**

...JUST ***SHUT-UP!*** ***ALLA*** YA'S!

I DON'T CARE ***HOW*** COLD'R SCARED YA ARE! YER THE ***BAIT!***

I ALREADY PUT OUT THE ***WELCOME MAT*** FOR SPIDER-MAN, AN' LET WORD OUT THAT HE ***BETTER*** MAKE AN APPEARANCE, AN' I'M ***TELLIN'*** YA', IF HE DON'T SHOW UP ***SOON***...

...ONE A' YA'S IS GONNA *DRINK IT!*

NOW JUS' *SHUT UP* AN' MAYBE DO A LITTLE *PRAYIN'* FER SOME *'ARACHNIDIAN INTERVENTION'!*

KLANG

GLUNGH!

SPLOOSH

Y'*KNOW*, MORRIE --

SPLASH

-- I WOULDA THOUGHT THAT YOU'D HAVE THAT 'DUMB AS A BOX OF HAMMERS' THING *FIXED* BY NOW!

DON'TCHA KNOW THAT WHEN YA ISSUE A STATEMENT TO THE *NEWS* TELLIN' SPIDER-MAN T'COME AND *SAVE* ALL YOUR *HOSTAGES* --

-- *EVERY-BODY ELSE HEARS IT TOO!*

BACK OFF, MARKO! LESS YOU WANNA BE *'MIXIN' IT UP'* WITH ME AGAIN!

SANDMAN!

BRING IT ON, YA *MORON!* I GOT YER NUMBER *THIS TIME!*

♠ HYDRO-MAN KNOWS THE SANDMAN BY HIS OLD ALIAS, FLINT MARKO.
♦ SANDY AND HYDRO 'MIXED IT UP', COMBINING INTO ONE MAD AND MUDDY GUY BACK IN **AMAZING SPIDEY #218** -- Remix Ralf.

INTERLUDE:

...I MAINTAIN, YOUR HONOR --

-- THAT MY ***CLIENT*** IS ***INNOCENT!*** THE MAN YOU SEE BEFORE YOU IS A ***RATIONAL, INNOCUOUS*** OLD MAN -- TOTALLY HARMLESS! CERTAINLY ***NOT*** THE SAME MAN WHO COMMITTED THESE ALLEGED ***CRIMES.***

HE IS AN ELDERLY GENTLEMAN WHO HAS BEEN THROUGH AN ***INCREDIBLE ORDEAL,*** WHO NOW DREAMS ONLY OF SPENDING HIS ***FEW REMAINING YEARS*** ENJOYING A WELL-EARNED ***RETIREMENT!***

I ***ASK*** YOU, YOUR HONOR GIVEN HIS AGE AND FRAILTY --

-- WHAT THREAT COULD ***ADRIAN TOOMES*** POSE TO SOCIETY?

SHORTLY...

MY ***THANKS,*** MY DEAR, YOU WERE ***SPLENDID*** IN THERE!

I'M JUST GLAD YOU'RE ***HAPPY,*** Mr. TOOMES. NOW THAT YOU HAVE YOUR ***FREEDOM,*** YOU MUST BE ANXIOUS TO START YOUR ***BRAND NEW LIFE..?***

YES, A BRAND NEW LIFE ***AWAITS!***

ALTHOUGH...

THERE IS ***ONE LAST ANNOYANCE*** FROM THE PREVIOUS ONE THAT STILL REQUIRES MY ***ATTENTION!***

BUGLE

OKAY, ENOUGH OF THAT... LET'S GET BACK TO THE ACTION!

SPLASH

POW

...HERE AT THE SCENE, WHERE THE APPARENT STAND-OFF HAS BEEN ENDED BY THE UNEXPECTED APPEARANCE OF --

HEY, LOOK! IT'S SPIDER-MAN

KRUNCH

UNH!

THANKS, BUDDY. ALL I WANTED TO DO WAS SWING THROUGH UNDETECTED WHILE SANDY KEEPS HYDRO-MAN OCCUPIED...

THWIP

...ARRIVAL OF SPIDER-MAN, TAUNTING ANY-ONE INTERESTED IN COLLECTING THE BUGLE'S BOUNT-

...AND MAYBE GET A CHANCE TO FREE THE HOSTAGES...

...BUT I DOUBT THAT'S GONNA HAPPEN IF THEY KEEP YELLING 'LOOK, IT'S SPIDER-MAN!'...!

THIS MUST BE THE WAY IN -- *WHA-?! SPIDER-SENSE!*

ARE YOU *KIDDING?* I'M TRYING TO SAVE A BUSLOAD OF *PEOPLE* AND SOME JERK'S TRYING TO MAKE A FAST *5 MILLION..?!*

KA CHOW

ONLY IN NEW YORK..!

OUTTA *SIGHT,* OUTTA THE LINE OF *FIRE...*

...WOW, THERE'S A *LOT* OF THEM...

IT'S ALL RIGHT, FOLKS, THE EVER-AMAZING SPIDER-MAN IS --

A *KILLER! A MURDERER!* HE'S HERE TO *KILL US ALL!*

WHOA! TAKE IT *EASY,* EVERYBODY! AND DON'T BELIEVE *EVERYTHING* YOU READ IN THE *BUGLE!*

I PROMISE I WON'T *KILL YOU...*

AND I *ALSO* PROMISE THAT I'LL GET YOU ALL *OUT OF HERE...*

...BUT YOU'VE GOT TO LISTEN *CLOSELY...*

SHORTLY, OUTSIDE...

SHKRANG

HOOLF!

MAN, WHAT WAS *THAT?!* IT *SHOOK* THE *WHOLE TOWER!*

THOSE TWO *MUSCLE-HEADS* MUST'VE HIT ONE OF THE *SUPPORT STRUTS!*

AAEEI!

KKROOAN

AHHHH!

TONG

UNGH!

THE *WHOLE TOWER'S* STARTING TO *LIST..!*

KREEEEEEEE

...WE'RE GONNA GO *DOWN*, UNLESS...

THWIP

THWIP

GOT IT!

THAT SHOULD HOLD US FOR A LITTLE BIT..!

OKAY, EVERYBODY... JUST TAKE IT ***SLOW***, DON'T ***PANIC***. WE'LL BE OUT OF HERE ***SOON ENOUGH***.

-THERE I'VE GOT YOU -

-IF I CAN REACH-

-PULL!-

-- SOMEONE IN THE VAN JUST CRASHED THROUGH THE GATE, DAN! -- THIS -- THIS IS ***INCREDIBLE!***

AND INSIDE --

AT THE *ANGLE* IT'S AT NOW, NO ONE BUT A *SPIDER-MAN* COULD CLIMB THAT *LADDER..!*

I'LL HAVE TO COME UP WITH *ANOTHER* WAY OUT!

PLOOOSH

OKAY, LET'S SEE IF I CAN DO THIS RIGHT...

TUNG TUNG TUNG

SPLOOOOSH

...AND I THINK THAT *'WAY'* IS *DOWN!*

MAN, THAT WATER'S COLD.

SPAAK

UFF!

MOMENTS LATER...

AW, *NO!* ALLA MY *HOSTAGES* ARE GETTIN' AWAY!

SABLE SHOULD BE *SET UP* BY NOW... TIME TO PACK IT IN...

OKAY, MORRIE -- IT'S *GO TIME!*

Huh?! WHAT ARE YOU -- WAIT!

WHAT THE *FREAK* ARE YOU TRYIN' T'*DO* TO ME YA *FREAKIN' FREAK!?*

DON'T MERGE WITH ME, YA IDIOT! CUT IT OUT! WE'LL GET *STUCK* THAT WAY AGAIN, AN' --

I DON'T *THINK* SO, MORRIE -- I *TOLDJA,* I GOT YER NUMBER...

...HIT IT SABE!

WITH PLEASURE!

SSSHHHoooo

SHORTLY --

BUT I DON'T *GET* IT... YOU JUST *FROZE* YOUR PAL?

HE *IS* BEING PAID OVERTIME..!

SPIDER-MAN... BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE NYPD, I ORDER YOU TO SURRENDER!

YOU ARE WANTED FOR QUESTIONING IN CASES OF ASSAULT AND MURDER!

ARE THERE ANY MORE HOSTAGES IN THERE?

YES. A FEW.

EASY... TAKE YOUR TIME...

MAN, THIS BITES ROCKS! HERE I AM, RISKING MY NECK TO HELP THESE PEOPLE --

"-- WHILE I'M SIMULTANEOUSLY BEING SURROUNDED BY A BUNCH OF TOUGH-GUY BOUNTY HUNTERS --

"NOT TO MENTION NEW YORK'S FINEST --"

-- ALL BECAUSE NORMAN OSBORN'S MADE THIS TOWN TOO HOT FOR SPIDER-MAN! AND I CAN'T JUST SLIP OUT --

-- THIS WOMAN'S UNCONSCIOUS! AND POSSIBLY SUFFERING FROM HYPOTHERMIA! --

"I'VE GOT TO GET HER OUT OF HERE NOW!"

SPIDER-MAN! RELEASE THE FINAL HOSTAGES AND COME OUT NOW!

MAN, THIS GUY WANTS SPIDER-MAN SO BAD HE CAN --

-- HEY, THAT MIGHT WORK..!

A FEW MINUTES LATER --

"I *HOPE* IT WORKS..!

"THEY'RE LOOKING FOR SPIDER-MAN, SO THEY WON'T BE PAYING *ANY* ATTENTION TO --

"-- PETER PARKER!

"JUST HAD TO SNAG MY *WEB PACK* OFF THE ROOF, CHANGE *CLOTHES* AND --"

KACHOW

Huh?!

WHO WAS THAT?! HOLD YOUR FIRE! HOLD YOUR FIRE!

"ONE OF THOSE TRIGGER-HAPPY *BOUNTY HUNTER* GUYS, CAN'T *WAIT* FOR SPIDEY TO SHOW HIS *WEBBED HEAD*..."

"WITH MY SPIDER-LIKE *REFLEXES*, I COULD EASILY *TWIST AND FLIP* -- LAND *GRACEFULLY* -- BUT THEN THEY'D *KNOW* --!

"THEY'D SEE THAT *I'M* SPIDER-MAN!

"HAVE TO FALL *NATURALLY*. MAKE IT *LOOK* LIKE I'M --

"YOW! MY *ANKLE..!*"

HOW MANY *MORE?*

WE WERE THE LAST ONES...

THERE HE IS!

IT'S HIM! IT'S HIM!

GET HIM!

BUDDA BUDDA

BRAKKA BRAKKA

POW

BUDDA BUDDA

POW BUDDA BUDDA

CEASE FIRE! CEASE FIRE! JEEZ.

THAT'LL BE *ENOUGH!* THE NEXT MAN TO FIRE A WEAPON WILL BE *ARRESTED* AND *CHARGED!*

WE'VE *GOT HIM.* SIR -- I THINK HE --

-- IT'S -- IT'S *NOT EVEN HIM!* IT'S HIS *WEB STUFF!* SIR --

-- WE'VE BEEN *DEKED!*

LATER THAT NIGHT --

-- AT THE WAREHOUSE WORKSHOP OF **HOBIE BROWN** --

-- INVENTOR, ELECTRONICS ENGINEER, AND SOMETIME SUPERHERO -- WHEN HE TAKES TO THE SKIES AS THE MYSTERIOUS **PROWLER!**

BUT TONIGHT, HE'S JUST WORKING...

KREEE

?

HEY, HOBIE -- I DIDN'T WANNA ***STARTLE*** YOU.

MIND IF I ***DROP IN?***

ANYTIME, BUDDY! ***MY*** SECRET HIDEOUT'S ***YOUR*** SECRET HIDEOUT!

WHAT'D YOU DO TO YOUR ANKLE?

Oh, I GUESS I JUST ***LANDED*** ON IT THE WRONG WAY. IT'S JUST A ***SPRAIN*** -- LISTEN, I WANTED TO ***THANK YOU*** FOR THAT TIMELY ***ASSIST*** LAST WEEK.

HEY, PAL -- ***FORGET ABOUT IT!*** AFTER ***EVERYTHING*** YOU'VE DONE FOR ***ME***, I'D SO ***ANYTHING*** TO REPA-

ACTUALLY, HOBIE, I MIGHT JUST ***TAKE YOU UP*** ON THAT...

...THERE'S... SOMETHING... THAT YOU MIGHT BE ABLE TO ***HELP*** ME WITH...

SEE SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN #25 – Rescuing Ralf.

NEXT ISSUE:

DON'T MISS THE DRASTIC DECISIONS! THE DANGEROUS DEVELOPMENTS! THE DARING DIRECTIONS! ALL OF THAT IN 30 DAYS! ALSO --

LOOT, LOOT, LOOT, LOOT!

MARVEL® COMICS

PRELUDE

APR #433

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN®

DEFALCO
LYLE
LAROSA

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NOWHERE TO HYDE!

THE AMAZING Stan Lee presents: SPIDER-MAN

THE LONG FAREWELL

THE POPULAR PRESS CALLS HIM Mr. HYDE FOR REASONS TOO OBVIOUS TO ENUMERATE.

HIS REAL NAME IS CALVIN ZABO.

A FORMER MEDICAL RESEARCH SCIENTIST, Dr. ZABO DEVELOPED A CHEMICAL FORMULA --

-- WHICH INSTANTLY TRIGGERS A PHYSICAL TRANSFORMATION THAT ENCOMPASSES HIS ENTIRE BODY.

THOUGH HIS STRENGTH IS MANY TIMES THE NORMAL MAN'S, HE STILL HAS HIS SHARE OF PROBLEMS.

TAKE SHOPPING FOR INSTANCE...

YOU CAN'T IMAGINE HOW DIFFICULT IT IS TO GET A DECENT SUIT IN HIS SIZE.

TOM DEFALCO
WRITER

TOM LYLE
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THUS, HE USUALLY VISITS STORES DURING OFF HOURS.

HIS SITUATION REGARDING ATTIRE IS RATHER DESPERATE AT THE PRESENT TIME.

YOU SEE, HE RECENTLY HAD A RUN-IN WITH THE HULK --

SALE

SALE

-- AND WAS FORCED TO ABANDON ALL HIS LUGGAGE --

-- WHEN HE LEAPT FROM A PLUMMETING AIRPLANE.

AS SHOWN IN HULK#458 -- -- Run-in Ralf.

WITH PRACTICED EASE, HE SNATCHES ANYTHING WHICH EVEN APPROXIMATES HIS MASSIVE FRAME, AND THEN --

-- AFTER HIS WATCH INJECTS HIM WITH HIS SPECIAL SERUM --

-- HE BEGINS, AGAIN.

ALBEIT WITH A GREATER EYE TOWARD FASHION AND FIT.

BETTER HURRY! THE STORE'S SILENT ALARM MUST HAVE ALERTED THE LOCAL CONSTABULARY BY NOW.

I STILL HAVE TO VISIT THE LUGGAGE DEPARTMENT, PACK UP MY SELECTIONS, AND BE ON MY WAY.

LOOKS LIKE I BARELY MADE MY EXIT IN TIME.

BEING ON THE RUN IS GETTING TO BE A HABIT LATELY, AND I HATE IT.

IT'S TIME TO REEVALUATE THE CURRENT COURSE OF MY LIFE.

BUT ALL I WANT TO DO NOW IS FIND A COMFORTABLE PLACE TO STAY --

-- WHILE I TRY TO COLLECT THE FEE WHICH THE NEW WORLD ORDER OWES ME FOR GOING UP AGAINST THE HULK!

NYPD

EVEN AS Dr. ZABO RACES OFF IN SEARCH OF SUITABLE LODGINGS, WE'LL TURN OUR ATTENTION ELSEWHERE...

ANY HOT **DOCS** LOOKING AFTER YOU, Ms. STACY --

-- OR DID THEY STICK YOU WITH THE **GEEZER PATROL?** GIVE ME THE **DIRT,** GIRLFRIEND! I'VE GOT MY HEART SET ON AN **ERIC LASALLE-** TYPE.

D-DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH, **SHANTAL... PLEASE!** HAVE **MERCY** ON A SICK GIRL! TALK TO HER, MARY JANE!

GET WELL SOON

OKAY, JILL... I'LL TRY TO CONVINCE HER TO SETTLE FOR A **DICK VAN DYKE.**

SOLD, BUT ONLY IF HE'S RICH ENOUGH! A GIRL'S GOTTA HAVE SOME STANDARDS!

IS THIS WHAT YOU LADIES USUALLY TALK ABOUT? I NEVER REALIZED YOU WERE SO SHALLOW.

YOU WANT **SHALLOW,** PETER?

WAIT UNTIL I UPGRADE TO A GEORGE CLOONEY LOOKALIKE!

YOU'RE **TERRIBLE,** MARY JANE. IT'S A GOOD THING YOUR HUSBAND KNOWS YOU'RE JOKING.

BY THE WAY, I STILL HAVE TO THANK YOU TWO FOR THIS GREAT **SNUGGLE-ME SMILE FACE DOLL.**

IT WAS THE **LEAST** WE COULD DO!

TALK ABOUT AN **UNDERSTATEMENT!**

THAT POOR WOMAN WAS **SHOT** IN OUR HOUSE.

I'VE BEEN A REAL WASHOUT AS A FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD **WEB-SWINGER** LATELY.

NOT ONLY HAVE I FAILED TO GET A LINE ON WHO ATTACKED **JILL STACY** --

-- BUT THE POLICE SUSPECT **SPIDER-MAN** OF MURDER --

-- THE DAILY BUGLE POSTED A **FIVE MILLION DOLLAR REWARD** ON MY HEAD --

-- I WAS ALMOST BEATEN TO DEATH BY THE **BLACK TARANTULA** --

-- AND I RECENTLY SPRAINED MY **RIGHT ANKLE** THANKS TO A GANG OF VIGILANTES WHO WERE TRYING TO CLAIM THAT BOUNTY!

* IT HAPPENED IN **PETER PARKER#87** -- – Poor Ralf * In Sens. S.M.#26 -- Left Ralf

HALF THE PEOPLE IN THIS CITY LOOK AT SPIDER-MAN AS A WALKING LOTTERY TICKET, AND THE OTHERS ARE TERRIFIED OF -- ***HEY!*** SOMEONE'S ENTERING THE ROOM.

Oh! IT'S ONLY THAT CRIMINOLOGY PROFESSOR -- ***MARINA CACHES*** -- AND HER FLAKY BOYFRIEND.

WHAT *IS* HIS NAME?

YOU SEEM IN GOOD SPIRITS, JILL. I HOPE THAT MEANS YOU'LL BE RETURNING TO CLASS SOON.

I COULD BE RELEASED WITHIN A WEEK TO TEN DAYS, MARINA.

IT'S SO NICE OF YOU AND ***Mr. RIGOLETTO*** TO VISIT.

DANTE AND I CAN ONLY STAY FOR A MINUTE, BUT I DID COME FOR A REASON.

DANTE --!

YOU ALSO LOOKING FOR AN ***UPGRADE?!***

NO SURPRISE THERE!

SHANTAL --!

I BROUGHT YOU COPIES OF THE LECTURES YOU'VE MISSED --

-- AND I ASSUME THIS PRIVATE JOKE INVOLVES ELIGIBLE DOCTORS.

YOU EVER WATCH ***ER?***

RIGOLETTO -- WHY DOES THAT NAME SOUND SO FAMILIAR? I'M SURE I HEARD IT LONG BEFORE I MET THIS STIFF.

HOW'S IT GOING, DANTE? I'M ***PETER PARKER.*** WE MET AT A DANCE AT ***EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY.***

DID WE?

I DON'T REMEMBER YOU.

Uh... MY WIFE IS IN MARINA'S CLASS... AND I'M A GRADUATE STUDENT IN THE SCIENCE DEPARTMENT.

NO... YOU STILL DON'T RING ANY BELLS... BUT I DO SEEM TO RECALL THIS CHARMING CHILD.

WHY AM I NOT SURPRISED?

NICE TO SEE YOU, DANTE.

I'M AFRAID PETER AND I HAVE TO ***SCOOT,*** PEOPLE. WE HAVE TO GO HOME AND CHANGE FOR A ***PARTY*** TONIGHT.

YOU TAKE IT SLOW, JILL --

-- AND KEEP ME IN MIND IF YOU SPOT ANYONE WHO LOOKS LIKE *YOU-KNOW-WHO!*

THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!
THANK YOU!
NO PROBLEM, TIGER! HE GETS ON MY NERVES, TOO.
I CAN'T UNDERSTAND WHY AN INTELLIGENT WOMAN LIKE MARINA HANGS WITH SUCH A WASTE!
BUT I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT HIM.
I STILL FEEL SO GUILTY ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO JILL.

I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, BUT I SWEAR I'LL FIND THE MAN RESPONSIBLE!
Oh! THAT REALLY PUTS MY MIND AT EASE.
YOU CAN BARELY WALK, PETER --
-- MUCH LESS SWING ON A WEB.

WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO?
GIVE UP BEING *SPIDER-MAN?*
IN A WORD... *YES!*
AT LEAST UNTIL THEY REVOKE THAT STUPID REWARD!
THAT *SPIDER* IN THE CENTER OF YOUR COSTUME HAS BECOME THE TARGET OF CHOICE FOR EVERY *AMATEUR MARKSMAN* IN THE CITY... *AND QUITE A FEW PROFESSIONALS, AS WELL.*

I'M REALLY *TRYING* TO BE CAREFUL, MARY JANE.
I KNOW, TIGER...
HECK, I'M NOT EVEN WEARING MY COSTUME TONIGHT!
I GUESS THAT'S A *START --!*
HELP THE BLIND

AS PETER AND MARY JANE PREPARE FOR THEIR PREVIOUSLY REFERRED TO PARTY, IT'S PROBABLY A GOOD IDEA FOR US TO LOOK IN ON THE GUEST OF HONOR...

HOLD STILL!

I WON'T WARN YOU, AGAIN!

I MEAN IT, JOE! THESE AFFAIRS ARE HARD ENOUGH BLASTED THINGS UNDER THE BEST OF CIRCUMSTANCES.

NO ONE'S GOING TO SAY ANYTHING IF I SHOW UP AT MY OWN FAREWELL PARTY WITHOUT A TIE, MARTHA.

WHAT ARE THEY GOING TO DO -- *FIRE ME?!*

I JUST WANT EVERYTHING TO BE PERFECT FOR YOU.

BUT I CAN'T SEEM TO MANEUVER PROPERLY WITH THIS CAST.

MAYBE YOU SHOULD WEAR A TURTLENECK.

RELAX, MARTHA! I CAN HANDLE THIS MYSELF.

SINCE *WHEN?!*

I'VE HAD PLENTY OF TIME TO PRACTICE EVER SINCE I RESIGNED FROM THE *DAILY BUGLE*.

GOTTA FIND SOME WAY TO FILL EACH DAY.

YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY WITH THIS?

I KNOW I'M THE ONE WHO PRESSURED YOU TO QUIT...

...BUT THAT'S ONLY BECAUSE YOU SEEMED SO UNHAPPY.

THERE WAS A TIME I LOVED WORKING FOR THE *DAILY BUGLE*...

BUT IT'S CHANGED...

AND SO HAVE I!

TODAY IS THE FIRST DAY OF THE REST OF OUR LIVES, Mrs. ROBERTSON.

I CAN'T BELIEVE WE ACTUALLY MADE IT, Mr. ROBERTSON. I KEPT THINKING SOMETHING WOULD GO WRONG.

AN INJURED ARM DOESN'T COUNT?

NOT SERIOUS ENOUGH!

BARELY AN HOUR LATER...

HOTEL ROOSEVELT

I DON'T BELIEVE IT!

HE LIVES! HE BREATHES...

HE OWNS A SUIT?!

KIND'A WILD, Huh? I'M TELLIN' EVERYONE IT'S A RENTAL.

TRUTH IS I BOUGHT IT FOR A BUD'S WEDDING A FEW YEARS BACK.

YOU CERTAINLY CLEAN UP REAL NICE, Mr. WALTERS!

LEAST I COULD DO FOR ROBERTSON'S FAREWELL BASH!

YOU SHOULD KEEP THIS LOOK, BILLY.

I HAVE SOME FRIENDS WHO MIGHT APPRECIATE IT.

IF THEY'RE HALF AS PRETTY AS YOU... I'M DOWN!

WHAT DO YOU SAY, PETE? MAYBE WE CAN DOUBLE.

Ahhhh... I REALLY WOULDN'T PUT TOO MUCH FAITH IN MARY JANE'S MATCH-MAKING SKILLS, MY MAN.

Uh-Oh! MY SPIDER-SENSE IS SUDDENLY REACTING! SOMETHING... OR SOMEONE... BEHIND ME!

ODD! I'M SURE THAT PROFESSIONAL TYPE IS THE ONE WHO SET ME OFF --

-- BUT HE DOESN'T LOOK THE LEAST BIT DANGEROUS.

MAYBE ALL MY RECENT STRESS HAS SOMEHOW AFFECTED MY SPIDER-SENSE.

THEN, AGAIN, THERE'S ALWAYS A CHANCE THAT THIS GUY ISN'T QUITE WHAT HE APPEARS.

MY NAME IS CALVIN ZABO. I PHONED EARLIER FOR A RESERVATION.

Oh, GREAT! ANOTHER FAMILIAR-SOUNDING NAME... BUT WHERE HAVE I HEARD IT?!

FIGURES! THE LINE FOR THE COAT CHECK IS FINALLY THINNING OUT, BUT THERE'S NO SIGN OF PETER.

DID YOU SEE HIM WANDER OFF, BILLY?

Uh... NO... BUT HE DOES IT TO ME ALL THE TIME.

AT LEAST YOU AREN'T MARRIED TO HIM!

I HATE USING MY REAL NAME, BUT ALL OF MY FALSE CREDIT CARDS AND FAKE IDENTITIES WERE LOST WITH MY CLOTHES.

I DOUBT IT WILL MATTER. FEW PEOPLE KNOW MY REAL IDENTITY.

I HOPE YOU'LL ENJOY YOUR STAY, Dr. ZABO.

SO DO I, MY DEAR.

I WONDER IF I SHOULD FOLLOW THIS GUY, OR --

THERE YOU ARE!

IN CASE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN, MISTER... WE'RE HERE TO SAY GOODBYE TO ONE OF YOUR DEAREST FRIENDS.

SORRY, MARY JANE. I JUST GOT A LITTLE DISTRACTED, AND -- ***HEY!*** LOOKS WHO'S HERE!

IT'S ***PHIL URICH*** AND ***MEREDITH CAMPBELL!***

NICE TO SEE YOU, GUYS.

I TOLD YOU THIS WOULDN'T WORK, PHIL.

Uh... ***YEAH...*** YOU TOO!

STAY COOL, MERRY! PETE WON'T RAT US OUT.

IS THERE A PROBLEM HERE, PHIL?

IF YOU WANT TO GET TECHNICAL, MERRY AND ME REALLY DON'T BELONG HERE. WE CAME ON THE SNEAK TO PAY OUR RESPECTS TO Mr. R!

SOUNDS GOOD TO ME!

I'M SURE OUR BELOVED PUBLISHER -- ***J.JONAH JAMESON*** -- WILL GLADLY SPRING FOR A COUPLE OF FORMER INTERNS.

YEAH... ***RIGHT!*** KNOWING THAT CHEAPSKATE, IT'S A CASH BAR.

SOME SUPER HERO I AM! IT'S BAD ENOUGH, I CAN'T IDENTIFY A POSSIBLE PERP, I'M NOW GUILTY OF AIDING AND ABETTING A PAIR OF PARTY-CRASHERS!

MARY JANE COULD BE RIGHT! IT MAY FINALLY BE TIME FOR ME TO RETHINK THIS WHOLE SPIDER-GIG!

FINALLY CHECKING THEIR COATS, THE PARKERS ENTER THE GRAND BALLROOM...

LOOK AT THIS PLACE! A LIVE BAND AND TABLES FULL OF FREE FOOD. AT MOST BUGLE FUNCTIONS JAMESON SUPPLIES THE WATER FOUNTAIN --

-- AND EXPECTS EVERYONE TO BRING HIS OWN PAPER CUP.

BE NICE, PETER.

YOU KNOW HOW JONAH ALWAYS FELT ABOUT ROBBIE.

IT AIN'T GONNA BE THE SAME WITHOUT YOU, JOE.

WHO YOU TRYING TO KID, BEN? IT HASN'T BEEN THE SAME SINCE JJJ WENT INTO PARTNERSHIP WITH NORMAN OSBORN.

JOSEPH! THIS AIN'T THE PLACE TO STIR THAT POT!

MAYBE WE SHOULD COME BACK LATER. JOE AND HIS WIFE SEEM TO BE IN A PRETTY HEATED DISCUSSION WITH BEN AND DORIS URICH.

AND I CAN GUESS THE TOPIC OF CONVERSATION!

IF YOU SAY NORMAN OSBORN, I'LL SCREAM.

NORMAN OSBORN.

Eek!

YOU CALL THAT A SCREAM?

I DIDN'T WANT TO UPSET THE OTHER GUESTS.

VERY CONSIDERATE!

START SMILING, JOE!

HERE COMES OUR HOST...

I'M SURPRISED YOU DON'T HAVE A DRINK IN YOUR HAND.

THIS IS YOUR NIGHT, AFTER ALL...

THIS GALA'S COSTING ME A SMALL FORTUNE --

-- AND I'D HATE TO THINK YOU WEREN'T ENJOYING YOURSELF.

WE'RE ALL HAVING A SIMPLY MARVELOUS TIME, JONAH.

JOE AND I ARE OVERWHELMED BY YOUR GENEROSITY.

HOW ARE YOU FEELING, MARTHA? JONAH TOLD ME ABOUT YOUR ARM.

MY DOCTOR SAYS IT'LL BE AS GOOD AS NEW IN A FEW WEEKS, MARLA.

Harrump GLAD TO HEAR IT!

BY THE WAY, OSBORN SENT HIS APOLOGIES.

A FAMILY COMMITMENT PREVENTED HIM FROM JOINING US.

HOWEVER, HE DID ASK ME TO PRESENT YOU WITH THIS SPECIAL CHECK.

AN ADDITIONAL YEAR'S BONUS FROM THE ***DAILY BUGLE*** --

-- FOR ALL YOUR YEARS OF LOYAL SERVICE!

AS THE ONE IN CHARGE OF THE FAMILY BUDGET, I'D LIKE YOU TO CONVEY OUR DEEPEST... *THANKS*... TO Mr. OSBORN.

THIS MONEY WILL CERTAINLY COME IN HANDY WHEN JOE AND I GO ON OUR SECOND HONEYMOON.

HONEYMOON --?!

WE COULD BARELY AFFORD ONE WHEN WE WERE FIRST MARRIED, AND NEVER HAD THE TIME OR MONEY FOR A REAL ONE UNTIL NOW.

HOW ROMANTIC --!

WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

JOE WANTS TO VISIT ***GREECE*** AND SAIL THE ***AEGEAN SEA.***

WHEW! GOTTA GIVE MARTHA CREDIT! SHE MANAGED TO OUT-MANEUVER BOTH JONAH AND ROBBIE.

STRONG, SMART LADY!

ON SOME LEVEL, I GUESS I'VE BEEN BLAMING HER FOR JOE'S DEPARTURE...

THAT'S NOT HOW I SEE IT.

MUCH AS HE MAY HAVE WANTED TO STAY, THE TIME SIMPLY CAME FOR HIM TO MOVE ON.

A MAN'S GOTTA KEEP PACE WITH THE CHANGES AROUND HIM, OR HE GETS LEFT BEHIND.

SOUNDS LIKE YOU'VE BEEN GIVING THIS A LOT OF THOUGHT YOURSELF.

THE BUGLE ISN'T A STABLE WORKPLACE THESE DAYS.

SPEAKING OF WORK, I WONDER IF YOU CAN HELP ME OUT WITH SOMETHING THAT'S BEEN NAGGING AT ME. YOU EVER HEAR ABOUT A *Dr. CALVIN ZABO?*

YOU MEAN THE GUY WHO BECOMES *Mr. HYDE?*

GOT A PRETTY EXTENSIVE FILE ON HIM BACK AT THE OFFICE, AND -- *PETER?* YOU ALL RIGHT? YOU SUDDENLY LOOK A LITTLE PALE.

Uh... *SORRY,* BEN... I JUST REMEMBERED SOMETHING I FORGOT TO BRING TONIGHT.

MY SPIDER-COSTUME! OF ALL THE TIMES TO LEAVE IT HOME.

BUT I CAN'T IGNORE A MENACE LIKE HYDE! HE'S A TRUE MONSTER WITH AN UNCONTROLLABLE TEMPER!

MAYBE I SHOULD CLUE MARY JANE, AND -- *WHOA!*

WHAT AM I THINKING? I'VE FOUGHT HYDE BEFORE, AND COULD BARELY HOLD MY OWN WHEN I WAS OPERATING AT 100% EFFICIENCY.

IT WOULD BE INSANE TO GO UP AGAINST HIM WITH A BUM LEG.

MAYBE I SHOULD JUST CALL THE POLICE.

NO! TOO DANGEROUS! I'D NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF IF SOME POOR COP WAS INJURED BECAUSE SPIDER-MAN FAILED TO ACT.

I'VE GOT TO FIND A WAY TO CONCEAL MY IDENTITY, AND -- *HEYYYY!*

THAT HOODED SWEATSHIRT WHICH PHIL URICH WAS WEARING MAY DO THE TRICK.

GOOD OL' ***BEN REILLY*** USED TO DON A SWEATSHIRT LIKE THIS WHEN HE OPERATED AS THE ***SCARLET SPIDER.***

GOD! HOW I *MISS* HIM...

...WHY DID HE HAVE TO *DIE*?!

ARRGH! THIS IS NOT THE TIME TO BE MAUDLIN. I'VE GOT TO CONCENTRATE ON THE TASK AT HAND.

THE HOTEL SWITCHBOARD WOULDN'T RELEASE ZABO'S ROOM NUMBER, SO I'M GOING TO HAVE TO FIND HIM THE OLD - FASHIONED WAY --

-- BY USING MY ***SPIDER-SENSE*** TO ZERO IN ON HIM!

IF HE'S SETTLED IN FOR THE NIGHT, I CAN COME BACK LATER --

-- AFTER I BRING MARY JANE HOME AND SNAG MY COSTUME!

OTHERWISE, I'LL *AD-LIB*...

...GOTTA TIE THIS HOOD, SO THAT MY FACE IS HIDDEN IN SHADOW!

I'M GLAD PHIL BUYS HIS SWEATSHIRTS EXTRA LARGE FOR THE BAGGY LOOK.

Uh-Oh! GOT TO GO REAL EASY ON MY RIGHT ANKLE. IT'S STILL PRETTY TENDER, AND CAN'T TAKE MUCH PRESSURE.

IF ONLY I'D BROUGHT MY WEB-SHOOTERS, I COULD SWING AROUND THIS BUILDING IN NO TIME.

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE I'M GOING TO HAVE TO CRAWL PAST EVERY ROOM UNTIL I GET LUCKY.

THOUGH QUITE ARDUOUS, OUR LESS-THAN-COSTUMED ADVENTURER'S EFFORTS ALONG THE HOTEL'S OUTER WALL PROVE RATHER BORING, SO LET'S LEAP AHEAD A FEW MINUTES...

OF ALL THE BLASTED LUCK! EVERY NUMBER I HAVE FOR THE ***NEW WORLD ORDER*** SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN DISCONNECTED.

I DOUBT THEY'RE DELIBERATELY TRYING TO CHEAT ME --

-- THEY DIDN'T STRIKE ME AS SUICIDAL --

-- BUT THAT DOESN'T HELP ME COLLECT THE MONEY I'M OWED.

SOMETHING TELLS ME I'M GOING TO HAVE TO UPGRADE MY BUSINESS PRACTICE BEFORE I -- *WAIT!*

I SWEAR I JUST SAW SOMEONE DART AWAY FROM MY WINDOW, AND WE'RE ON THE FOURTEENTH FLOOR.

IT APPEARS THE HOTEL'S RECEPTIONIST WASN'T AS VAPID AS SHE SEEMED.

SHE APPARENTLY RECOGNIZED MY NAME, AND ALERTED THE AUTHORITIES.

PITY! I WAS SO LOOKING FORWARD TO A GOOD NIGHT'S REST.

THAT WAS CLOSE! MY ANKLE'S SLOWING ME DOWN A LOT MORE THAN I THOUGHT, BUT I'M SURE I MANAGED TO DUCK OUT OF SIGHT BEFORE HE --

Uh-Oh!

SO MUCH FOR THE ***SUBTLE*** APPROACH!

Oh, MAN! I BARELY MANAGED TO AVOID THAT FLYING CREDENZA --

-- AND, WITHOUT MY WEB-SHOOTERS, I COULDN'T PREVENT IT FROM PLUNGING INTO THE STREET, AND GIVING SOME POOR PEDESTRIAN THE FRIGHT OF HIS LIFE.

IT'S A MIRACLE SOMEONE WASN'T INJURED -- OR WORSE!

I KNOW I'M GOING TO REGRET THIS IN THE MORNING -- *IF I LIVE THAT LONG* -- BUT I CAN'T ALLOW HYDE TO ENDANGER ANYONE ELSE!

IT'S TIMES LIKE THESE I REALLY WISH I HAD SOME KIND OF SIGNAL WATCH THAT I COULD USE TO CALL THE ***AVENGERS.***

HECK, I'D EVEN SETTLE FOR THE ***GRIZZLY*** AND THE ***GIBBON*** AT THIS STAGE.

OUT OF MY WAY!

THAT ELEVATOR IS RESERVED FOR ME!

Ahh -- COME ONNNN! THERE'S ALWAYS ROOM FOR ONE MORE --

-- ESPECIALLY A SOCIABLE SOUL LIKE MYSELF!

YOU! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO WAS AT MY WINDOW!

I DON'T KNOW ***WHO*** YOU ARE OR ***WHAT*** YOU WANT, BUT YOU'LL RUE THE DAY YOU DARED CHALLENGE ***Mr. HYDE!***

WOW, I'M IMPRESSED! YOU DON'T RUN INTO MANY PEOPLE WHO ACTUALLY USE A WORD LIKE ***RUE,*** ANYMORE.

FOOL! YOU HAVE DOOMED YOURSELF BY ENTERING THIS CRAMPED SPACE.

IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE YOU FALL BENEATH MY CRUSHING FISTS.

YOU TELL ME THIS NOW --?!

HYDE'S RIGHT! I HAVE LITTLE ROOM TO MANEUVER... SO I'VE GOT TO MAKE THE BEST OF IT.

ESPECIALLY SINCE I'VE STILL GOT TO PROTECT MY RIGHT ANKLE FROM FURTHER INJURY.

MUST TRUST MY SPIDER-SENSE TO WARN ME IN TIME TO DUCK HIS BLOWS --

-- WHILE MY SPIDER-LIKE SPEED --

-- AND REFLEXES --

-- KICK INTO OVER-DRIVE!

I... I DON'T BELIEVE IT! NOBODY CAN MOVE THAT FAST!

I'M GETTING DIZZY JUST TRYING TO KEEP UP WITH YOU!

BUT SPEED IS NO MATCH FOR BRUTAL STRENGTH!

YOU'LL TIRE EVENTUALLY... AND THAT'S WHEN I'LL MAKE MY MOVE!

MEANWHILE, ON THE BALLROOM LEVEL...

I WISH YOU'D STOP PUSHING THAT BUTTON, HAROLD.

IT PASSES THE TIME, CAROL, SO PLEASE GET OFF MY --

-- BACK?!

Oh, NO! I WAS HOPING THE DOORS WOULDN'T OPEN UNTIL WE HIT THE BASEMENT, BUT THAT'S THE BALLROOM UP AHEAD.

WE'RE HEADED STRAIGHT FOR ROBBY'S PARTY!

YOU'RE GETTING *DESPERATE*, FRIEND -- I CAN FEEL IT -- BUT THERE WON'T BE ANY LAST MINUTE *REPRIEVE* IN YOUR FUTURE!

BURSTING THROUGH THE BALLROOM DOORS -- TO THE STUNNED AMAZEMENT OF THOSE GATHERED TO HONOR JOE ROBERTSON -- HYDE FINALLY MANAGES TO GRASP HIS SQUIRMING ADVERSARY, AND HURL HIM TO THE GROUND!

HA! I KNEW YOUR FANCY FOOTWORK WOULD NEVER PREVAIL AGAINST ME!

THIS MAY NOT BE THE MOST APPROPRIATE TIME TO MENTION IT...

...BUT YOU SHOULD CONSIDER CARRYING A *BREATH SPRAY.*

M-MY GOD! THAT'S PETER --!

I... I KNOW I GOTTA BE WRONG, BUT THAT REALLY LOOKS LIKE --

-- MY *SWEATSHIRT?!*

MARLA, GET TO SAFETY -- *NOW!*

W-WHAT ABOUT YOU, DARLING?

I NEED TO FIND A PHOTOGRAPHER... AND *FAST!*

Oh, NO! NO!

W-WE WERE SO CLOSE!

GET A HOLD OF YOURSELF, MARTHA!

I'M SURE SOME-ONE'S ALREADY CALLED THE POLICE.

THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING! TO ME!

NO PUNK *AMATEUR* -- WHO CAN'T EVEN AFFORD A GAUDY COSTUME -- CAN TAKE DOWN *Mr. HYDE!*

YOU GOTTA BE SOMEBODY I KNOW!

RUN, JOE! ***RUN!*** I ALWAYS FEARED THE DAILY BUGLE WOULD SOMEHOW BE THE CAUSE OF YOUR DEATH, BUT I THOUGHT YOU WERE FINALLY SAFE!

OF COURSE!

THE WAY YOU MOVE! YOUR BLINDING SPEED AND AGILITY!

I KNOW YOU!

YOU'RE MY OLD PARTNER -- *THE DEADLY COBRA!*

Uh...

...NOPE

...NOT EVEN *CLOSE!*

AARGH!

Oh, NO! IN HIS FRUSTRATION HE TOSSED THAT BABY GRAND WAY OVER MY HEAD --

-- AND IT'S ON A COLLISION COURSE WITH THE ***ROBERTSONS!***

THEIR ONLY HOPE --

-- IS A THREE CUSHION RICOCHET --

-- WHICH SHOULD GIVE ME ENOUGH MOMENTUM --

-- TO DO MY ***HERO-THING!***

CUE THE *APPLAUSE!*

I... I DON'T EVEN KNOW HOW TO BEGIN... TO THANK YOU, MISTER...

JUST DON'T LOOK UP...

...BECAUSE YOU MIGHT RECOGNIZE ME IF YOU DID!

AND I HAVE MORE WORK TO DO!

PUH DOOM

YOU THINK I CAN'T TAKE THE PUNISHMENT? *HA!* I'VE GONE ONE-ON-ONE WITH THE *HULK!*

REALLY? LET ME GUESS WHO WON!

UGNH THAT WAS REAL CARELESS! I WAS SO INTENT ON DISGUISING MY VOICE SO THAT NONE OF MY COWORKERS WOULD PEG IT --

-- THAT I INSTINCTIVELY LASHED OUT WITH MY INJURED LEG!

THE PAIN IS ALMOST MORE THAN I CAN BEAR... BUT I... I CAN'T STOP NOW!

I MUST KEEP HIM OFF-BALANCE...

...WEARING HIM DOWN LITTLE BY LITTLE UNTIL...

ENOUGH! THERE'S NO PROFIT IN FIGHTING A HUMAN PINBALL!

I'M GOING TO FIND MYSELF A NICE, QUIET, LITTLE ***HIDEAWAY,*** AND --

IT'S HIM! IT'S HYDE! D.

TAKE HIM DOWN!

WHAT A MISERABLE DAY I'M HAVING --!

I'M SURE THINGS WILL EVENTUALLY PERK UP...

...I HEAR A STAY IN ***SOLITARY CONFINEMENT*** IS RATHER RESTFUL IN THE OFF-SEASON!

I'D BETTER SLIP AWAY... AND RECOVER MY SHOES... BEFORE ANYONE NOTICES THAT ***PETER PARKER*** MISSED ALL THE EXCITEMENT.

COME TO THINK OF IT, I'D BETTER HURRY --

-- BECAUSE I HAVE ONE MORE JOB TO DO!

MARTHA, I...

I NEVER REALIZED THE TERRIBLE TOLL MY WORK WAS TAKING ON YOU.

TH-THAT'S ALL IN THE PAST, JOE.

TODAY REALLY IS THE FIRST DAY OF THE REST OF OUR LIVES.

HARRUMPH! I'M HOLDING THIS HOTEL RESPONSIBLE FOR RUINING OUR PARTY --

-- AND DEMANDING A FULL ***REFUND!***

JONAH! THIS ISN'T THE TIME TO COUNT PENNIES!

WE SHOULD BE THANKFUL NO ONE WAS HURT!

BAH! A ROOM FULL OF EDITORS, REPORTERS AND PHOTOGRAPHERS -- AND NOT ONE OF THEM THOUGHT ABOUT TOMORROW'S EDITION!

WE COULD HAVE FEATURED Mr. HYDE'S CAPTURE IN A FRONT PAGE EXCLUSIVE IF ONLY --

I HATE TO ***INTERRUPT*** YOU WHEN YOU'RE ON A ROLL, JONAH...

...BUT WE STILL ***CAN!***

YOU SEE, I BROUGHT A ***POCKET CAMERA*** TO SNAP A FEW KEEPSAKES --

-- AND CAUGHT THE COPS HAULING HYDE AWAY!

SOMETIME LATER...

ONLY YOU COULD TURN A SIMPLE PARTY INTO SUCH A MOMENTOUS AND PROFITABLE OCCASION.

LISTEN, MARY JANE...

...I'M REALLY SORRY ABOUT THE WAY THINGS TURNED OUT!

I KNOW YOU WERE COUNTING ON A QUIET EVENING, BUT --

HUSH! DON'T YOU DARE APOLOGIZE!

I KNEW WHAT WAS IN STORE FOR ME WHEN I MARRIED YOU.

MON'S Rx

YOU HAVE A GREAT SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY, AND THAT'S ONE OF THE MANY THINGS I LOVE ABOUT YOU.

MY PROBLEM ISN'T SO MUCH ABOUT YOU PLAYING ***HERO*** -- *THAT'S A GIVEN* -- IT'S ABOUT YOU REMAINING ***SPIDER-MAN*** WHEN THERE'S A FIVE MILLION DOLLAR REWARD ON YOUR HEAD.

ARE YOU SAYING THAT YOU HONESTLY WOULDN'T MIND IF I CONTINUED TO FIGHT CRIME... JUST SO LONG AS I WORE SOME STUPID HOODED ***SWEAT-SHIRT***... INSTEAD OF A ***SPIDER-MAN*** COSTUME?!

WELL...

MAYBE WE SHOULD PUT OUR HEADS TOGETHER...

...AND COME UP WITH A TOTALLY *NEW IDENTITY*...

...WHICH ISN'T QUITE SO *FASHION-CHALLENGED!*

THE END

MARVEL COMICS

PRELUDE

APR
#90

APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

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MACKIE
ROMITA JR
HANNA

PETER PARKER SPIDER-MAN

I TOLD YOU WE SHOULDN'T HAVE GONE WALKING IN ***THIS*** PART OF TOWN.

YANCY STREET? WHO GOES TO YANCY STREET LOOKING FOR A PLACE TO EAT?

I DISTINCTLY REMEMBER SAYING, *"PETER, LET'S GO TO THE UPPER WEST SIDE TONIGHT."* BUT ***NO***... SOMEONE AT THE BUGLE RECOMMENDED ALGERIAN CUISINE DOWN HERE.

GOOD THING WE DIDN'T GO UPTOWN. WE'D HAVE MISSED ALL THE FUN.

FUN?! WHEN YOU PUT ON THAT COSTUME, YOU'RE NO LONGER THE AMAZING WEB-SLINGER, THE FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD ***SPIDER-MAN!***

YOU ARE SPIDER-MAN... WANTED FELON.

THE MASKED VIGILANTE WHO BEAT THE POOR AND HELPLESS NORMAN OSBORN AND WHO MURDERED SOME LOW LIFE CRIMINAL NAMED JOEY Z.

NO ONE IS GOING TO BELIEVE THAT NORMAN IS... WAS... IS THE SUPER-VILLAIN KNOWN AS THE ***GREEN GOBLIN***, OR THAT JOEY Z WAS MURDERED TO FRAME YOU.

ALL THEY KNOW IS THAT YOU, SPIDER-MAN, HAVE A FIVE MILLION DOLLAR BOUNTY ON YOUR HEAD.

AND THERE ISN'T A PERSON IN THIS CITY, POLICEMAN OR CIVILIAN, WHO HASN'T ***THOUGHT*** ABOUT HOW TO COLLECT IT.

SO, CAN YOU EXPLAIN TO ME EXACTLY ***WHY*** IT IS YOU ***HAVE*** TO PUT ON THAT COSTUME?

BECAUSE IT'S WHAT I DO. AND BECAUSE WE ***DID*** DECIDE TO COME DOWN HERE FOR DINNER AND...

...BECAUSE OF ***THAT!***

YANCY STREET

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Stan Lee presents Peter Parker Spider-Man

It Started On Yancy Street... Again!

HOWARD MACKIE/JOHN ROMITA Jr./SCOTT HANNA
Story & Art

R.S. & COMICRAFT'S KIFF SCHOLL
Letters

GREGORY WRIGHT
Colors

RALPH MACCHIO
Editor

BOB HARRAS
Editor in Chief

"GO, PETER. HELP THEM.

"BUT, JUST FOR ONCE... BE *CAREFUL!*"

"YOU KNOW ME."

"UNFORTUNATELY... I DO!"

THE *CAT, CARA!* YOU HAD TO COME BACK FOR THE CAT?

YES, *BEN,* I DID! I'VE HAD FALINE EVER SINCE I WAS A KID AND I WASN'T ABOUT TO LET HER GET SUCKED INTO THAT BLACK HOLE THINGY.

BAD ENOUGH McGREGOR'S COFFEE SHOP *AND* MY BEST SHOT AT A SUMMER JOB JUST DISAPPEARED --

DO YOU TWO MIND SHUTTING UP?! I'M FIGHTING FOR OUR LIVES HERE!

CHILL, *DUNCAN!* DON'T WASTE *YOUR* ENERGY TALKING. YOU JUST HOLD REAL TIGHT 'TIL THIS THING PASSES.

GUYS! I DON'T THINK I CAN HOLD ON MUCH MORE.

ARE WE GOING TO DIE?

NO ONE DIES HERE! WE STICK TOGETHER... WE SURVIVE!

MY SENTIMENTS *EXACTLY!*

SPIDER-MAN!

DON'T HURT US, MAN! WE --

YEAH... I HAD NOTHING ELSE TO DO, SO I THOUGHT I'D WANDER INTO THE MIDDLE OF A SUPERNATURAL PHENOMENON AND *KILL* THREE TEENAGERS WHO ARE FIGHTING FOR THEIR LIVES!

BE QUIET AND HANG ON.

DESPITE WHAT THE PAPERS SAY... I'M ONE OF THE GOOD GUYS.

AND *WHEN* WE'RE DONE HERE ...

...IF YOU COULD CLUE THE POLICE IN TO THAT FACT...

...I'D BE MIGHTY GRATEFUL. I THINK THEY DON'T TRUST ME.

"DO YOU THINK IT COULD BE MY MASK?"

I'M TELLING YOU, SARGE, I CAN HIT HIM FROM HERE!

OR YOU COULD NAIL ONE OF THE CIVS.

LET IT PLAY OUT. WE'LL NAIL HIM *AFTER* THIS THING BLOWS OVER AND THE KIDS ARE OUT OF HARM'S WAY.

SARGE? WHAT *IS* THIS THING?

YOUR GUESS IS AS GOOD AS MINE.

HOLD ON!

I'M TRYING, BUT MY JACKET... WE... I...

...HELP US... PLEASE!

NO!

THEY'RE GONE! SUCKED INTO THAT BLACK HOLE.

IT'S CLOSING. GOT TO GO AFTER THEM.

NO!

SORRY, MARY JANE. I'VE GOT TO --

SHOC?!

NEW YORK'S NEWEST SUPER GUY!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I'VE GOT TO HELP THOSE THREE KIDS, BEFORE --

NOT WITHOUT *ME.*

I *OWE* YOU FOR YOUR HELP WITH THAT MADMAN *CROWN!**

BESIDES, THIS ENERGY ANOMALY SEEMS TO BE SOMEHOW TIED INTO THE SOURCE OF MY OWN POWERS.

I WAS HALFWAY ACROSS THE CITY WHEN I FELT IT PULLING AT ME.

* SEE ISSUE #80 – Ralf.

LOOK, YOU NEED SOME WAY TO GET BACK. I THINK I'VE GOT IT.

TAKE THIS. IT'S PART OF MY DARK FORCE.

I'LL TRY AND KEEP THIS RIFT FROM CLOSING COMPLETELY.

WHEN YOU'VE GOT THEM, SQUEEZE THIS AND I'LL TRY TO PULL YOU BACK.

TRY?

NOW YOU HAVE TIME FOR QUESTIONS?

GO!

GONE.

THAT'S ABOUT AS *CAREFUL* AS I THOUGHT YOU'D BE, PETER.

A SPLIT SECOND LATER...

...REALITY CHANGES FOR **SPIDER-MAN** AND THE THREE TEENAGERS FROM YANCY STREET.

WHERE ***ARE*** WE?

I DON'T KNOW, BUT WE'VE GOT TO ***TRY*** TO STICK TOGETHER!

POOR KIDS. THEY'VE GOT TO BE SCARED OUT OF THEIR MINDS.

MY HEART IS PUMPING PRETTY GOOD AND I RECOGNIZE THE PLACE.

MADE A TRIP THROUGH NOT TOO LONG AGO... DURING THE RETURN OF THE HEROES FROM THAT STRANGE UNIVERSE.

I THINK I HEARD ***REED RICHARDS*** CALL THIS THE ***DISTORTION FIELD.*** A PORTION OF SUBSPACE WHERE MATTER IS CONVERTED INTO ANTI-MATTER... AND VICE VERSA.

IT LEADS TO ***THE NEGATIVE ZONE,*** ANOTHER PORTION OF SUB-SPACE WHERE EVERYTHING IS COMPOSED OF ANTI-MATTER.

BUT ***WHY*** DID THAT PINHOLE OPEN UP BETWEEN THE TWO UNIVERSES?

IS IT A ***NATURAL*** PHENOMENON, OR...

...WHO AM I KIDDING? YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE A GENIUS LIKE Mr. FANTASTIC TO FIGURE OUT THAT I NEVER HAVE THAT KIND OF LUCK!

OKAY... LOOKS LIKE I'M COMING IN FOR A LANDING!

NOW, AS I RECALL Dr. RICHARDS TELLING ME, THE DISTORTION FIELD ACTUALLY ENGULFS OBJECTS PASSING THROUGH IT WITH ENOUGH OF A VAPOR CUSHION TO ENABLE A SPEEDY AND SAFE ENTRY THROUGH THE ATMOSPHERE.

TIME TO SEE IF Mr. FANTASTIC, THE MODEST ONE OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR, REALLY LIVES UP TO HIS TITLE OF *"SMARTEST MAN ON EARTH."*

PERSONALLY... I'M HOPING HE DOES.

UGPH!

OOPH!

ARGH!

BKOOM

NOT BAD!

BKOOM

A LITTLE COSTUME CHANGE, MAYBE A FEW BRUISES, BUT OTHERWISE...

...REED'S TITLE STANDS --

BKOOM

WHAT THE --? ALL THE SMOKE AND EXPLOSIONS!

WHAT DID I DO... LAND IN THE MIDDLE OF L.A.?

BKOOM

I'M GUESSING NOT.

I'M THINKING A GOOD OLD-FASHIONED, GEORGE LUCAS INSPIRED, REBELS VERSUS THE EVIL EMPIRE REBELLION IS TAKING PLACE.

AS MUCH AS I'D LOVE TO JUMP INTO THE FRAY, SINCE I DO LOVE A GOOD FIGHT, BUT...

...IT REALLY IS HARD TO TELL WHO ARE THE GOOD GUYS AND WHO ARE THE BAD.

NOT TO MENTION THAT I'VE GOT THREE STRAY EARTH TEENS WANDERING AROUND HERE SOMEWHERE...

...AND THAT CAN PLAY HAVOC WITH INTERGALACTIC DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

OOPS! PROBLEM SOLVED!

THE BAD GUYS WOULD BE THE ONES BLASTING THE BUILDING WITH WOMEN AND CHILDREN AND...

...LEADING THE THREE KIDS AWAY AT GUNPOINT.

GUESS I KNOW WHICH SIDE I'M GOING TO BE ON!

WHOA! SOMEONE SEEMS TO HAVE SPOTTED THE ALIEN OUTSIDER ***AND*** MY DANGER SENSE SEEMS TO BE ON THE FRITZ!

I'VE GOT MORE TRICKS UP MY SPIDER-SLEEVE THAN THESE ALIENS HAVE EVER ***DREAMED*** OF!

FINE! A MINOR SET-BACK. I CAN DEAL WITH IT!

PTOOM

PTOOM

BUT FIRST I'LL TRY A LITTLE DIPLOMACY!

TAKE ME TO YOUR LEADER! I COME IN PEACE --

PTOOM PTOOM PTOOM

SO MUCH FOR *DIPLOMACY!*

TIME TO SHOW YOU ALL WHY I'M CALLED THE WEB...

PFFFT

PFFFT

...SLINGER?

GREAT! APPARENTLY PASSING THROUGH THE DISTORTION FIELD HAS INTERFERED WITH MY SPIDER-SENSE ***AND*** MY WEB-SHOOTERS!

GUESS IT'S JUST GOING TO BE ME, MY ***FISTS*** AND --

-- WHO THE --?

EXCUSE ME!

I WAS ***HANDLING*** IT!

AND, IF YOU DON'T MIND MY ASKING...

...***WHERE*** DID YOU COME FROM?

THIS BATTLE IS ***NOT*** YOUR CONCERN, OFF-WORLDER!

ACTUALLY... IT IS!

I TRAVELED A ***LONG*** WAY TO RESCUE GUYS DRESSED JUST LIKE THESE THREE KIDS JUST DRAGGED OFF . I'M NOT LEAVING WITHOUT THEM.

IF YOU REALLY WISH TO ***HELP***, OFF-WORLDER --

YOUR THREE FRIENDS WOULD HAVE BEEN BROUGHT THERE.

HELP US... AND WE WILL HELP YOU.

-- YOU WILL AID ME IN FENDING OFF THE IMPERIAL TROOPS WHILE MY FORCES LAUNCH AN ATTACK ON THEIR FORTRESS.

DUSK!

THE EMPEROR HAS OFFERED TO REWARD WELL THE MAN WHO BRINGS IN THE REBEL LEADER'S HEAD!

YOU'RE SOUNDING LIKE MY KIND OF GUY, DUSK, BUT...

...YOU WANT TO FILL ME IN ON EXACTLY WHAT CAUSE I'M FIGHTING FOR?

I'D HATE TO WIND UP ON THE ***WRONG*** SIDE!

THE IMPERIAL FORCES ARE USING A WEAPON WHICH WILL RIP THROUGH THE SPACE/TIME CONTINUUM AND ALLOW THEIR ARMIES TO CONQUER ANOTHER DIMENSION...

...THAT WHICH I BELIEVE TO BE ***YOUR*** DIMENSION!

AND IN THE PROCESS THIS PLANET, ***MY*** PLANET WILL BE DESTROYED.

WE ARE FIGHTING FOR THE VERY EXISTENCE OF THIS WORLD AND...

...QUITE POSSIBLY, THAT OF ***YOURS!***

GOOD CAUSE!

ARRGH!

YOU'VE GOT TO... HOLD THEM... *HERE!*

I'M *ON IT!* THIS ARMOR SEEMS PRETTY STURDY!

SHOULD BE ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH WHAT I NEED TO WITHOUT HURTING ANYONE TOO MUCH!

NOTHING LIKE AN *AVALANCHE* TO SLOW 'EM DOWN!

WHOA! HEY! WHERE ARE YOU TAKING HIM?

DUSK HAS FALLEN. THE DAY IS LOST.

BUT THE REBELLION... YOUR PLANET?

IT *CAN'T* BE ALLOWED TO END THIS WAY.

NOT WITHOUT A FIGHT.

I WON'T LET IT!

A SHORT TIME LATER, AT THE REBEL STRONGHOLD...

COME, OFF-WORLDER, I HAVE A REQUEST TO MAKE OF YOU.

BUT FIRST... TELL ME *WHY* YOU HAVE TRANSVERSED THE DISTORTION FIELD TO COME TO OUR WORLD.

THE PROTECTION OF INNOCENTS.

THEN WE DO HAVE MUCH IN COMMON.

COME. I WOULD SPEAK WITH YOU IN PRIVATE.

I OFFER YOU A WAY TO ACCOMPLISH YOUR GOAL, TO SAVE THE LIVES OF THE THREE YOUNG OFF-WORLDERS, AND...

...A WAY TO SAVE AN ENTIRE PLANET.

HOW CAN I --?

YOU MUST LEAD THE REBEL FORCES AGAINST THE IMPERIAL FORTRESS.

HOW? YOUR PEOPLE WON'T FOLLOW ME.

NO...

...BUT THEY WILL FOLLOW *ME!*

YOU MUST DON THIS COSTUME.

DUSK WAS A REBEL LEADER OF MYTHIC PROPORTIONS. HE --

WAS?

THE TRUE DUSK DISAPPEARED SOME TIME AGO. I AM NOT HE. I WAS ONLY ONE OF HIS LOYAL CAPTAINS...

...WHO CHOSE TO TAKE UP HIS MANTLE WHEN HE WAS CAPTURED BY IMPERIAL FORCES AND SHUNTED INTO THE DISTORTION FIELD.

WITHOUT DUSK THE REBELLION WOULD HAVE... STILL WILL... FALL INTO DISARRAY.

ALL I ASK IS THAT ***WHEN*** YOU FIND HIM...

...YOU RETURN THE COSTUME TO HIM WHO IS ***DUSK.***

TAKE IT.

WE HAVE LITTLE TIME.

THE IMPERIAL FORTRESS...

HOW CURIOUS.

ENERGY READINGS FROM THESE THREE OFF-WORLDERS ARE QUITE UNIQUE.

IT APPEARS THAT, THE PASSAGE THROUGH THE DISTORTION FIELD, HAS ALTERED THEIR GENETIC STRUCTURE.

THIS MAY BE THE KEY TO OPENING A PERMANENT RIFT WITHIN THE SPACE/TIME CONTINUUM.

THE EMPEROR WILL BE MOST PLEASED.

PERHAPS, BEFORE HE ARRIVES, A SIMPLE VIVISECTION OF ONE OF THEM WILL YIELD FURTHER CLUES --

OVER MY DEAD BODY!

THAT IS THE POINT, DEAR BOY!

YREOOOW!

THE ALIEN QUADRUPED!

KEEP IT AWAY! ***GUARDS!***

MAKE A ***RUN*** FOR IT! ***NOW!***

BEN! CARA! STAY TOGETHER.

WE CAN DO THIS! WE CAN ESCAPE! WE CAN ***SURVIVE!***

YOU SURE? THEY'RE KINDA BIG, DUNCAN!

BIG AND ***SLOW!*** WE'LL --

OOOLPH!

HOPE I'M NOT STEALING YOUR THUNDER, KID.

AND, IF IT'S ANY CONSOLATION, I'M SURE YOU COULD HAVE GOTTEN AWAY, BUT...

...I JUST THOUGHT YOU MIGHT NOT MIND AN ASSIST.

YOU! YOU ***DARE*** ENTER THE FORTRESS?

YES... I ***DARE!***

AND I BROUGHT SOME ***FRIENDS!***

GAME OVER.

BKOOM

NOT...

...YET!

AT LAST WE MEET, DUSK!

YOU! YOU HAVE BEEN A THORN IN MY SIDE FOR TOO LONG. I SHOULD HAVE CRUSHED YOU AS I CRUSHED YOUR PARENTS... INSTEAD OF ATTEMPTING TO MERELY EXILE YOU.

TODAY I MAKE AMENDS FOR PAST MISTAKES.

LORD BLASTAAR, BEFORE YOU GO ON, I DO WISH TO POINT OUT TO YOU A CERTAIN GENETIC ANOMALY IN THE THREE OFF-WORLDERS WHICH COULD HELP US WITH --

BKOOM

SILENCE!

Oh BOY! WASN'T COUNTING ON HIM BEING THE EMPEROR!

DUNCAN, I WANT YOU TO FOLLOW THESE PEOPLE. THEY'LL GET YOU TO SAFETY. I WILL JOIN YOU SOON, BUT I'VE GOT ONE MORE JOB TO DO.

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

NOTHING MUCH. JUST...

...TRY *NOT* TO GET KILLED AND TO SAVE A PLANET.

YOU WILL FAIL ON BOTH ACCOUNTS.

BKOOM

THAT'S THE BEST YOU HAVE, BLASTAAR?

YOU KNOW MY OLD BUDDY, THE HUMAN TORCH OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR, TOLD ME YOU WERE A HEAVY HITTER.

AND NOW *THIS*.

TO SAY I'M DISAPPOINTED IS AN UNDER-STATEMENT.

YOU *MOCK* ME?

Er... *YEAH!* I GUESS I DO!

WHERE ARE YOU, REBEL?

COME! FIGHT ME LIKE A *MAN!*

KTONk

HOWS ABOUT I FIGHT YOU LIKE A COWARDLY CUR WHO SKULKS IN THE SHADOWS?

BY THE WAY...

...NICE *HAIR!*

I RULE *SUPREME* IN THE NEGATIVE ZONE!

WHAT MAKES YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU CAN STOP MY IMPERIAL MARCH ACROSS THE DISTORTION FIELD?

YOU! AN INSIGNIFICANT BACKWATER REBEL?

I *LAUGH* AT YOUR IMPUDENCE!

KRAK

KEEP ON LAUGHING, BUT...

...WHETHER YOU KNOW IT, OR NOT...

...YOUR FORCES ARE GOING TO LOSE TODAY!

AND ONCE THEY DO... ONCE WORD GETS AROUND THE NEGATIVE ZONE THAT BLASTAAR IS ***NOT*** SO UNSTOPPABLE...

...YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE EVERY *"BACKWATER"* PLANET RISING UP IN REBELLION.

THEN WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO?

CRUSH THEM ***ALL!***

AS I HAVE COUNTLESS WORLDS BEFORE THIS ONE!

AS I WILL CRUSH ***YOU!***

THOK

YOU KNOW... I'M NOT FEELING TOO CRUSHED RIGHT ABOUT NOW!

BKOOM BKOOM

DUSK NEVER ENGAGED IN IDLE BANTER.

HE WAS AN ENEMY TO BE RESPECTED, TO BE FEARED...

...SILENT AS BIRD OF PREY, HE STRUCK FROM THE SHADOWS.

YOU ARE AS CLUMSY AND WEAK AS HE WAS STEALTHY AND POWERFUL.

IF EVER THERE EXISTED A MAN WHO COULD CHALLENGE ME...

...IT WAS ***DUSK.***

AND ***YOU*** ARE CLEARLY NOT HIM!

BKOOM

SOUNDS TO ME LIKE YOU RESPECTED, MAYBE EVEN FEARED, THIS GUY?

THUMP

I FEAR NO ONE!

I AM BLASTAAR!

BKOOM SSSSSSS

SCREEE

WHAT?

WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?

THE BEST I COULD FIGURE OUT...

...THIS FORTRESS OF YOURS **WAS** YOUR WEAPON.

AND GIVEN THE AMOUNT OF ENERGY YOU'RE DEALING WITH HERE...

...I FIGURED YOU HAD TO HAVE A PRETTY EXTENSIVE COOLING SYSTEM BUILT INTO THE WALLS.

SO... BY BOUNCING AROUND AND GETTING ***YOU*** TO DO THE HUMAN BOMB BLAST THING...

...WE ESSENTIALLY ELIMINATED THE COOLANT SYSTEM.

WITHOUT THE COOLANT...

YEAH... WELL I DON'T KNOW ABOUT ***YOU,*** BUT...

KRAKOOM

...I'D SAY IT'S TIME TO BOOGIE!

THIS IS COOL!

I GET TO FLY...

...AND HAVE AN ENTIRE WORLD SINGING MY PRAISES!

NOW IF I ONLY COULD FIGURE OUT A WAY TO CARRY SOME OF THIS GOOD WILL BACK HOME.

GUESS I SHOULD MAKE THE SPEECH NOW.

PEOPLE OF TARSUU! THE IMPERIALS HAVE BEEN ROUTED! **YOU** CAN RECLAIM OUR PLANET AND I MUST LEAVE TO CARRY ON THE FIGHT ELSEWHERE!

BUT... WHEN THE NEED IS GREATEST... **DUSK** WILL BE HERE!

AT THAT MOMENT...

YOU HAVE DONE WELL, OFF WORLDER. THE REBELLION IS GUARANTEED TO CONTINUE IN HIS NAME.

BUT IT IS FAR FROM OVER. HE, THE TRUE DUSK, MUST RETURN.

PLEASE... FIND HIM.

YOU GUYS READY TO HEAD ON HOME.

CAN WE? CAN **YOU?**

HERE'S HOPING.

HANG ON TIGHT, BECAUSE I HAVE *NO IDEA* HOW THIS IS GOING TO WORK.

READY WHEN YOU ARE --

SHOOO

POP

THAT *IS* YOU... ISN'T IT?

YEAH, BUT DON'T SAY ANYTHING...

..THE *REAL* ME IS NONE TOO POPULAR RIGHT NOW.

AND I DON'T MIND BASKING IN A LITTLE HERO WORSHIP FOR A CHANGE.

MARY JANE!

I'VE GOT TO LET HER KNOW IT'S ME. THAT I'M OKAY.

I LOVE YOU TOO, PETER.

THE START OF A WHOLE NEW BEGINNING...

...OR AT LEAST FOR THE NEXT TWO MONTHS.

APR
#256

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THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN®

RABBIT FIRE!

DEMATTEIS ROSS GIFFEN MILGROM

IV

Oh, **RACHEL** -- I **KNOW** YOU'RE MARRIED TO MY MOTHER'S STEP-FATHER -- BUT I LOVE YOU, DARLING -- I'VE **ALWAYS** LOVED YOU --

BUT, **BRENT** -- CAN'T YOU SEE THAT THIS ISN'T **RIGHT?** THAT --

RIGHT AND WRONG DON'T **MATTER,** DARLING --

-- WHERE **LOVE** IS CONCERNED!

Oh, BRENT!

BRENT! BRENT! BRE--

SPAKK

KRAKKLL

SO SORRY TO INTERRUPT YOUR IDIOCY, **NEW YORK,** BUT --

Oh, FOR **HEAVEN'S SAKE!**

WILL YOU **ADJUST THE CAMERA,** YOU **IDIOT?!**

GOT IT, CHIEF!

John Marc DeMatteis
story

Luke Ross
pencils

Dan Green
inks

Rich & Liz at Comicraft
letters

John Kalisz
colors

Ralph Macchio
editor

a Bob Harras
production

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Stan Lee presents:

THROUGH THE LOOKING GLASS

NOW WHERE *WAS* I? Ah, YES --

GOOD DAY, NEW YORK -- I AM THE ***WHITE RABBIT*** -- QUEEN OF CRIME! MISTRESS OF MAYHEM!

I SPEAK TO YOU FROM MY SECRET LAIR, THE ***RABBIT-HOLE*** --

-- WHERE, AS YOU CAN PLAINLY SEE, I HOLD TWO CAPTIVES WHO NEED NO INTRODUCTION!

TREMBLE IN TERROR -- AS YOU WITNESS YOUR GREATEST HEROES -- ***THE GRIZZLY*** AND ***GIBBON, THE BOY MONKEY*** -- HELPLESS AND IN MY THRALL!

AND I PROMISE YOU THIS: IF THE MAYOR DOESN'T TURN OVER ***ONE BILLION DOLLARS*** IN GOLD TO ME... BY ***MIDNIGHT TONIGHT*** --

-- THIS DYNAMIC DUO -- ***IS DOOMED!***

TADASHI

STARRING:
SPIDER-MAN!
(WELL, SORTA...)

DON'T **DO** IT! DON'T GIVE IN T'HER NEFARIOUS ***DEMANDS!***

WE'LL GET ***OUTTA*** THIS, Y'HEAR? WE'LL --

GRIZZLY --

OUCH!

KONK

SHUT YOUR BIG FURRY ***MOUTH!***

AND WHERE DID A DUNCE LIKE ***YOU*** EVER LEARN THE WORD ***"NEFARIOUS"***?

LOOK, CITIZENS OF THE CITY --

-- AND SEE WHAT AWAITS THESE BRAVE SOULS DOWN BELOW--

-- IN THE ***PIT OF DOOM!***

GENETICALLY MUTATED KILLER BUNNIES!

CAPABLE OF EATING A MAN ALIVE -- IN ***SECONDS!***

WHAT WILL IT ***BE,*** Mr. MAYOR? ***LIFE*** OR ***DEATH?***

THE DECISION IS ***YOURS!***

OK, ***CUT!*** THAT'S A ***WRAP!***

Oooh-- I WAS WONDERFUL, WASN'T I?

POIK

I WONDER IF THEY GIVE ***EMMYS*** FOR MELODRAMATIC TERRORIST SPEECHES?

YOU WERE ***BRILLIANT,*** DEAR!

I ***AGREE!***

PAMELA LEE COULDN'T HAVE GIVEN A MORE MOVING PERFORMANCE!

ABSOLUTELY!

ON BEHALF OF THE ***DORMOUSE*** AND MYSELF -- THE MALEVOLENT ***MAD HATTER*** -- I CAN SINCERELY SAY THAT WE'RE ***PROUD*** TO BE YOUR ***PARTNERS-IN-CRIME!***

UNQUESTIONABLY!

-- Mr. MAYOR! Mr. MAYOR!

IT WAS HORRIBLE! SHE BLACKED OUT ***ALL THE CHANNELS!*** PRE-EMPTED ***"JERRY SPRINGER"!***

DID YOU SEE IT, SIR? ON THE --

-- *TELEVISION..?*

Um -- *SIR..?*

BWA-HA-HA-HA-HAAA!

WHITE RABBIT!

KILLER BUNNIES!

GRIZZLY AND GIBBON!

THEN IT'S SAFE TO ***ASSUME,*** SIR --

-- THAT WE'RE ***NOT*** PAYING THE RANSOM?

...SO THE MEETING WITH ***HOBIE*** WENT WELL?

GREAT! BUT I'VE STILL GOT A LOT OF WORK ***AHEAD*** OF ME.

DIESEL

* THAT'S HOBIE BROWN-- AND IT HAPPENED IN THIS MONTH'S SENSATIONAL SPIDER-MAN, SNACKY! – Researchin' Ralf.

IT'S A GOOD THING I STUMBLED ON THAT ***DUSK*** COSTUME WHILE I WAS TRAIPSING AROUND THE ***NEGATIVE ZONE***. IT'LL MAKE MY LIFE A LITTLE ***EASIER***.

I'M REALLY EXCITED ABOUT ALL THIS, ***PETER***. I THINK IT'S A TERRIFIC IDEA!

WELL, YOU WOULD, ***MARY JANE*** -- AFTER ALL, YOU ***THOUGHT*** OF IT!

TRUE, TRUE -- AND A ***BRILLIANT*** BIT OF COGITATING IT ***WAS!***

I MEAN, LET'S FACE IT -- WITH THE ANTI-***SPIDER-MAN*** HYSTERIA AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH, IT'S THE ***ONLY*** WAY T'GO!

YOU CAN'T SHOW YOUR WEBBED FACE OUT THERE WITHOUT HALF THE POPULATION OF THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE GUNNING FOR YOU. BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU SHOULD STAY AT HOME, HIDING UNDER THE COVERS!

In the current PETER PARKER, SPIDER-MAN – Ralf again.

ANY OTHER WIFE WOULD BE ***BEGGING*** ME TO HANG IT UP. FORGET ABOUT SUPER-HEROING. BUT ***YOU*** --

-- AFTER ALL WE'VE BEEN THROUGH, YOU'RE ACTUALLY ***ENCOURAGING*** ME! YOU'RE --

I ***KNOW*** YOU, PETER. I KNOW WHAT ***DRIVES*** YOU.

I DON'T ***LIKE*** THE FACT THAT YOU SPEND SO MUCH OF YOUR TIME LEAPING OVER BUILDINGS IN A SINGLE BOUND AND RISKING YOUR LIFE TO SAVE PEOPLE YOU DON'T EVEN ***KNOW***--

-- BUT IT'S ***WHO YOU ARE!*** IT'S ONE OF THE REASONS I ***LOVE*** YOU!

YOU'RE THE BEST THING THAT EVER ***HAPPENED*** TO ME, YOU ***KNOW*** THAT?

Uh-***Huh.***

I'VE BEEN WORKING ON THE ***SKETCHES*** A LITTLE MORE...I REALLY LIKE THE IDEA YOU HAD FOR THE ***BOUNCER*** --

RICOCHET.

WHATEVER. BUT I MADE A FEW ALTERATIONS. HOPE YOU LIKE IT.

GOTTA BEAT RUNNING AROUND WITH A ***SWEATSHIRT*** OVER MY HEAD!

AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #433... now on sale! – Shameless Ralf.

HERE'S THE ONE I COOKED UP ALL ON MY LONESOME. I'M CALLING HIM THE ***ARCHETYPE***.

WHAT KIND OF NAME IS ***THAT?*** A SUPER-HERO NEEDS A NAME THAT PEOPLE CAN ***RELATE*** TO!

SOMETHING WITH ***PIZZAZZ!***

HOW ABOUT -- THE SENSATIONAL ***SENTRY?***

ISN'T THERE A TV SHOW WITH THAT NAME?

THAT'S ***"THE SENTINEL."***

STILL TOO CLOSE. WHAT ABOUT THE ***PROTECTOR?*** OR --

HA HA HA HAAA!

WONDER WHAT'S SO *FUNNY?*

LET'S GO INSIDE AND HAVE A *LOOK.*

ALL THOSE PEOPLE ARE GATHERED AROUND THE TV SETS --

SAVE 10%

SONY

MAYBE THEY'RE WATCHING A *"SEINFELD"* RE-RUN.

THAT'S NOT ON TILL *TONIGHT* --

THINK AL GORE'S GIVING A *SPEECH?*

PETER, THEY'RE *LAUGHING* -- NOT *SLEEPING!*

Oh, RIGHT. THEN I WONDER --

HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA

BIO

-- WHAT --

AW, NO!

*I SPEAK TO YOU FROM MY SECRET LAIR, THE **RABBIT-HOLE** -- WHERE, AS YOU CAN PLAINLY SEE, I HOLD TWO CAPTIVES WHO NEED NO INTRODUCTION!*

*TREMBLE IN TERROR -- AS YOU WITNESS YOUR GREATEST HEROES -- **THE GRIZZLY** AND **GIBBON, THE BOY MONKEY** -- HELPLESS AND IN MY THRALL!*

WELL, I GUESS IT COULD BE WORSE. THEY COULD'VE GOTTEN THEM-SELVES CAPTURED BY THE ***BIG WHEEL*** --!

YOU KNOW THOSE FRUIT-CAKES?

DON'T *ASK!*

YOU'RE GOING TO ***RESCUE*** THEM, AREN'T YOU?

LOOK, THE GRIZZLY AND THE GIBBON MAY NOT BE TOO ***BRIGHT*** -- IN FACT THEY MIGHT'VE BEEN THE MOST ***INEPT*** BAD-GUYS I EVER FACED --

-- BUT THEY'RE TRYING ***REALLY HARD*** TO STRAIGHTEN OUT THEIR LIVES AND ***MAKE*** SOMETHING OF THEMSELVES!

THE ***RABBIT,*** ON THE OTHER HAND, MAY BE RIDICULOUS -- BUT SHE'S A ***TOTAL PSYCHO!*** SHE MAY ACTUALLY ***KILL*** THOSE TWO --

-- AND I *CAN'T* LET THAT HAPPEN!

BUT YOU CAN'T JUST GO OUT THERE AS --

-- YOU-KNOW-WHO!

KRIOLAD'S GROCERY

I'D RUN HOME AND GRAB THE *DUSK* SUIT IF I HAD THE TIME, BUT --

-- SOMETIMES A GUY'S JUST GOT TO THINK ON HIS *FEET!*

...THIS COULDN'T HAVE WORKED OUT BETTER IF I'D PLANNED IT *MYSELF!*

BUGLE

AND COME TO *THINK* OF IT, I *DID!*

Ah, PETER... YOU DEAR, *STUPID* BOY --

DAILY BUGLE

NEW YORK'S FINEST DAILY NEWSPAPER

WHERE IS SPIDER-MAN?

HUNTED HERO HIDING

EXCLUSIVE B

ROB BEAUMON

-- HOW YOU MUST BE *TWISTING* IN THE WIND!

I SHOULD JUST *STOP* FOR A WHILE -- LET YOUR FEAR AND PARANOIA BUILD TO *MAMMOTH* PROPORTIONS -- BUT I DON'T KNOW IF I --

OSBORN!

AFTERNOON, *JONAH.*

I WANT TO *TALK* TO YOU!

SOMETHING ON YOUR *MIND*, OLD FRIEND?

DAILY BUGLE

WHAT ARE *YOU* ALL LOOKING AT?

THIS IS A *PRIVATE CONVERSATION!*

N.C

WHAT THE DEVIL ***IS*** THIS?!

IT ***APPEARS*** TO BE A PIECE OF PAPER.

IT'S THE BLASTED ***MEMO*** THAT WAS WAITING ON MY DESK THIS MORNING --

-- AND YOU ***KNOW*** IT!

MEMO?

ABOUT YOUR ***MEMOIRS?***

ABOUT THE ***APPOINTMENT*** YOU MADE FOR ME WITH THE HACK WHO'S ***GHOSTING*** THEM FOR YOU?

YOU DON'T REALLY THINK I'M GOING TO SIT DOWN WITH HIM AND SING YOUR ***PRAISES,*** DO YOU?

YOU DON'T THINK I'M GOING TO LET YOU USE ME ANY MORE THAN YOU ALREADY ***HAVE?***

JONAH, JONAH, JONAH -- MY ***IRASCIBLE*** COMRADE.

THIS PROJECT SEEMED THE BEST WAY TO COMBAT THE ***SPURIOUS IMAGE*** OF THE OSBORN FAMILY THAT ***BEN URICH'S*** LIBELOUS BOOK CREATED IN THE PUBLIC CONSCIOUSNESS...

AFTER THE KIDNAPPING OF MY GRANDSON BY THE ***GREEN GOBLIN,*** PEOPLE ARE ***FINALLY*** BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE ***NOTHING*** TO DO WITH THAT COSTUMED MANIAC.

THESE MEMOIRS WILL TELL MY SIDE OF THE STORY, IN PASSIONATE DETAIL -- CLEARING MY FAMILY'S SULLIED NAME ONCE AND FOR ALL.

AND IF I CAN'T DEPEND ON ***YOU,*** MY DEAR FRIEND AND PARTNER, TO HELP ME BY SHARING A ***FEW MEMORIES*** OF MY WARMTH AND GENEROSITY, THEN --

WARMTH AND GENEROSITY?!

YOU'VE GOT ALL THE WARMTH AND GENEROSITY OF A ***SNAKE,*** YOU ***MISERABLE*** SONUVA --

JONAH, YOU DON'T ***HAVE*** TO DO ANYTHING YOU DON'T ***WANT*** TO DO. IF IT'S THAT UPSETTING TO YOU -- JUST ***FORGET*** IT. NO ***HARM*** DONE.

Oh. BY THE ***WAY*** --

-- I'VE BEEN READING A ***LOVELY*** BOOK OF POEMS LATELY.

I BELIEVE THE AUTHOR IS A FAVORITE --

SELECTED POEMS

BY PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY

-- OF YOUR WIFE'S.

YOU DO ***ANYTHING*** TO HURT MY WIFE, YOU ANIMAL, AND YOU'LL LIVE TO ***REGRET*** IT!

ON THE OTHER HAND --

-- ***MAYBE YOU WON'T LIVE TO REGRET IT AT ALL!***

WHAT'S UP WITH ***HIM,*** Mr. O?

NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT, ***EUGENE.*** JONAH GOES ALL APOPLECTIC IF HE SO MUCH AS GETS A ***HANGNAIL.***

THE MAN NEEDS TO LEARN HOW TO ***RELAX.***

WHAT'S ON TODAY'S AGENDA, M'BOY?

WELL, YOU'VE GOT A LUNCH APPOINTMENT WITH THE EDITOR WHO'S WORKING ON THE BOOK WITH YOU...AND THEN THE MEETING WITH THE PEOPLE FROM THE ***AIDS CHARITY*** --

-- AND ***THEN*** DINNER WITH ***SENATOR ROEBERG*** AT THE ***OSBORN FOUNDATION.***

THE CAR WILL BE HERE TO PICK YOU UP IN ***TWENTY MINUTES.***

YOU REALLY ***ENJOY*** THIS, DON'T YOU, M'BOY?

YOU GAVE ME A ***SECOND CHANCE,*** Mr. OSBORN. I'LL NEVER ***FORGET*** THAT. IF I DIDN'T HAVE MY ***A.A. MEETINGS*** I'D STICK WITH YOU NIGHT AND DAY, I'D --

NO NEED TO GO ***THAT*** FAR, EUGENE. YOU GET STRONG. YOU BUILD A NEW LIFE.

MAKE YOURSELF ***PROUD,*** M'BOY --

-- AND MAKE ***ME*** PROUD, TOO.

...I'M ***STRONG***, GRIZ -- STRONG AS AN ***APE*** -- BUT I CAN'T --

ALL WE DID WAS TRY AN' STOP A ***BANK ROBBERY*** -- AN' LOOK WHERE IT GOT US!

WE SHOULDA STAYED HOOKED UP WITH THE ***SPOT*** AND THE ***KANGAROO*** --

DON'T WORRY, KID -- WE'LL GET OUTTA THIS. IT'S GONNA WORK OUT ***GREAT.*** BELIEVE ME.

I MEAN, WE GOT EVERY TV STATION IN NEW YORK CARRYING THIS.

ONCE WE BUST FREE AN' TAKE THAT WACKY RABBIT-WOMAN DOWN... WE'RE GONNA BE ON ***EASY STREET!***

GRIZ..?

WHAT?!

HEY, LOOK -- ***BIG EARS*** IS BACK!

...THE CITY ***TREMBLING!*** WAITING, ***TERRIFIED,*** BY MY EVERY WORD! THE ***MAYOR HIMSELF*** AT MY MERCY!

Oh, HOW ***I LOVE*** BEING A ***MASTER CRIMINAL!***

ONCE I WAS A BORED BUBBLEHEAD, MARRIED TO MULTI-BILLIONAIRE BUSINESSMAN. I LACKED FOR NOTHING.

BUT MATERIAL PLEASURES, ALAS, COULDN'T SATISFY ME. I CRAVED THRILLS AND ***EXCITEMENT*** -- TWO THINGS MY HUSBAND, THE LETHARGIC ***LEWIS DODSON,*** COULDN'T PROVIDE!

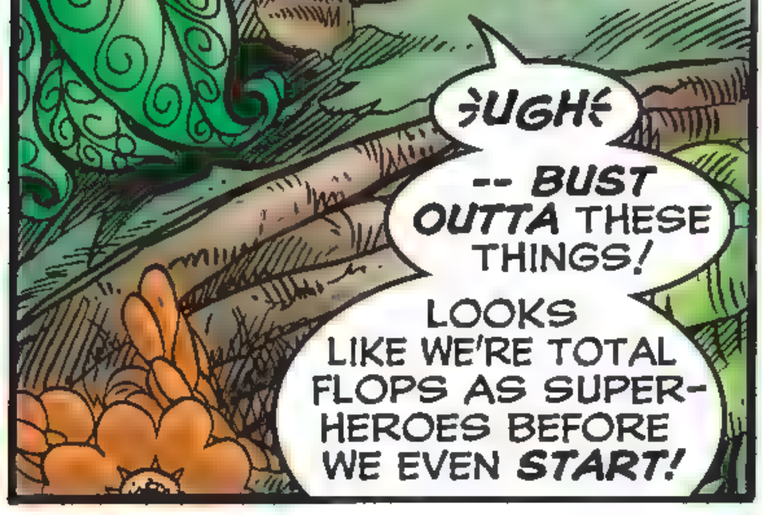
WHICH ISN'T ALL THAT SURPRISING! AT THE TIME, I WAS TWENTY-FIVE AND HE WAS EIGHTY-TWO!

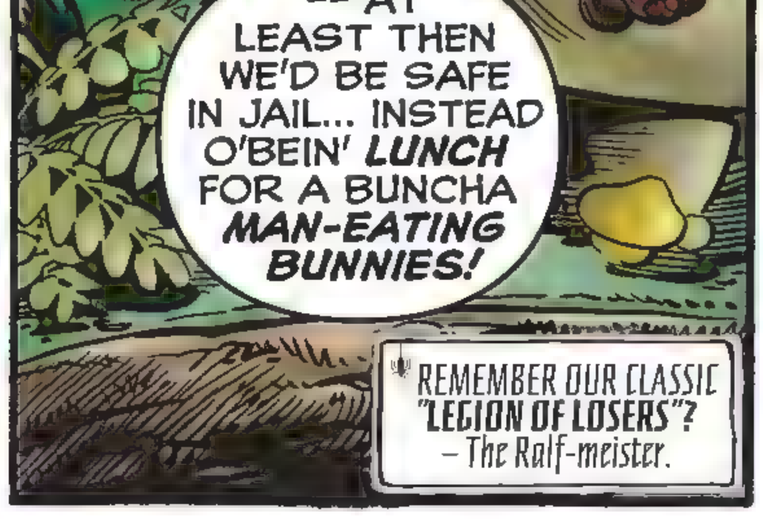
YOU DON'T ***HAVE*** A UTILITY BELT.

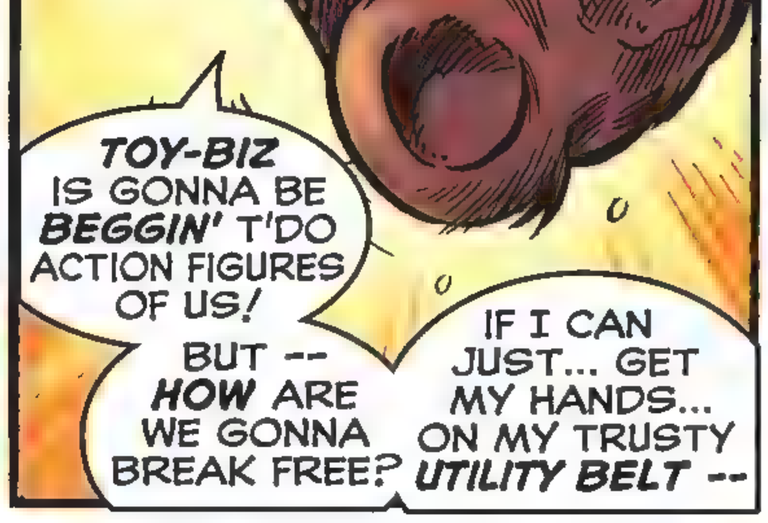
Oh.

Y'KNOW, YOU ***NEVER*** DID TELL US HOW YOU STARTED ***OUT*** IN THIS BUSINESS --

IT'S A CHARMING ***TALE*** -- NO PUN INTENDED.




-- AT LEAST THEN WE'D BE SAFE IN JAIL... INSTEAD O'BEIN' ***LUNCH*** FOR A BUNCHA ***MAN-EATING BUNNIES!***
REMEMBER OUR CLASSIC "LEGION OF LOSERS"? – The Ralf-meister.


TOY-BIZ IS GONNA BE ***BEGGIN'*** T'DO ACTION FIGURES OF US!
BUT -- ***HOW*** ARE WE GONNA BREAK FREE?
IF I CAN JUST... GET MY HANDS... ON MY TRUSTY ***UTILITY BELT*** --

AFTER I CLEVERLY KNOCKED LEWIS OFF -- AND BELIEVE ME, HE DIED HAPPY -- I USED HIS FORTUNE TO REMAKE MYSELF AS THE ***WHITE RABBIT!***

I BECAME THE MOST ***FEARED*** EVIL-DOER IN THE TRI-STATE AREA --

-- BUT, TIME AND AGAIN, I FELL AFOUL OF MY ARCH-NEMESIS -- ***SPIDER-MAN!***

FWAK

"TIME AND AGAIN"? IT WAS ***TWICE.***

AND I WOULDN'T EXACTLY SAY YOU WERE *"THE MOST FEARED EVIL-DOER IN THE TRI-STATE AREA."* I MEAN, LET'S FACE IT --

-- MOST PEOPLE HAVE NEVER EVEN HEARD OF Y--

WHO ***ASKED*** YOU?!

KONK

YOUR IMPERIAL HARENESS!

YES?

WE GOT AN ***ANSWER*** FROM THE MAYOR!

YES? YES?

HE'S MADE US A ***COUNTER-OFFER*** --

YES? YES? ***YES?***

-- OF TWO DOLLARS AND FIFTY CENTS!

I ASK FOR A ***BILLION DOLLARS IN GOLD*** --

-- ***AND HE OFFERS ME TWO-FIFTY?!***

TWO-FIFTY?

IT AINT THAT BAD, GRIZ -- I MEAN, THAT'S A BUCK AND A QUARTER ***EACH!***

Oh, ***SHUT UP!***

I'M ***HOPPING MAD*** NOW!

KEITH, ANDREW, KEVIN -- ***GUARD*** THOSE TWO NINCOMPOOPS! THE REST OF YOU COME WITH ME!

WE'RE BREAKING OUT THE ***FLYING HARE!***

IT'S TIME THE MAYOR LEARNED HOW ***DEADLY*** A BUNNY CAN BE!

START THE MOTOR! LOAD UP THE BOMBS!

AND BRING ME MY CARROT JUICE!

...WE GOTTA GET *OUTTA* HERE!

OUR TWO PALTRY LIVES DON'T MEAN *ANYTHING* --

-- BUT WE'VE GOTTA PROTECT THE CITY WE WERE *BORN* T'SERVE -- OR *DIE TRYIN'!*

GOSH, GRIZ -- THAT'S *BEAUTIFUL!*

YEAH, AIN'T IT? I READ IT IN AN OLD *COMIC BOOK!*

"SO THAT'S WHERE YOU GOT THE WORD '*NEFARIOUS*' FROM!"

I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M ACTUALLY HAVING *FUN* DOING THIS!

I THINK TAKING AN ACTIVE PART IN PETER'S LIFE AS A SUPER HERO IS ACTUALLY *EMPOWERING* ME!

HELPING HIM *BRAINSTORM*... WORKING UP THIS *COSTUME* -- IT SURE BEATS SITTING BY THE WINDOW, SIGHING -- AND WONDERING WHEN MY HUBBY'S GOING TO GET *HOME!*

MAYBE I CAN TURN THIS INTO A *CAREER!* PETER CERTAINLY KNOWS ENOUGH PEOPLE IN THE *LONG-UNDERWEAR* BUSINESS!

I CAN DESIGN AND CREATE NEW COSTUMES -- CONSULT WITH THEM WHEN THEIR *PUBLIC IMAGE* IS SLIPPING --

THE TRICK WOULD BE TO LAND A REALLY BIG ACCOUNT LIKE THE *AVENGERS.* THEY'VE GOT SOMETHING LIKE EIGHT THOUSAND MEMBERS -- AND SOME OF THOSE COSTUMES ARE *SOOOO* TACKY!

MARY JANE..?

Oh -- *AUNT ANNA --!*

STASH THE *STUFF,* GIRL!

WHAT'S THE MATTER? YOU LOOK *MISERABLE!*

I...I GUESS I'M STILL EMBARRASSED ABOUT WHAT *HAPPENED* THE OTHER DAY --

YOU MEAN WITH *PETER?* WHEN YOU ACCUSED HIM OF BEING *UNFAITHFUL* TO ME?

IT TOOK YOU COMING UP WITH THAT RIDICULOUS STORY ABOUT HIM BEING *SPIDER-MAN* TO MAKE ME REALIZE WHAT A *FOOL* I MUST HAVE SOUNDED LIKE --

BUT WHAT GOT *INTO* YOU? I MEAN... YOU KNOW PETER BETTER THAN THAT --

DO WE EVER *REALLY* KNOW ANOTHER PERSON?

DO WE EVER REALLY KNOW *OURSELVES?*

WHAT IS IT, ANNA? *WHAT'S WRONG?*

LIVING HERE WITH YOU AND PETER... BEING AROUND A YOUNG MARRIED COUPLE, DAY AFTER DAY... IT'S *AFFECTED* ME -- MADE ME THINK ABOUT THINGS THAT *HAPPENED*... SO MANY YEARS AGO... WHEN I WAS YOUNG.

WHEN I WAS *FIRST MARRIED.*

MARRIED?

YOU WERE *MARRIED?!* BUT YOU NEVER *TOLD ME!* YOU --

I NEVER TOLD *ANYONE.*

I WAS EIGHTEEN -- HUNGRY AND RECKLESS. I'D GONE OUT TO CALIFORNIA -- CHASING MY *DREAMS* --

-- THINKING I WAS GOING TO BE AN *ACTRESS.*

YOU, TOO?

GUESS IT RUNS IN THE *FAMILY.*

ANYWAY -- THAT'S WHERE I MET *ROBERT.*

I DON'T THINK WE KNEW EACH OTHER *THREE WEEKS* WHEN WE GOT MARRIED. WE DIDN'T *STAY* MARRIED VERY LONG. AND IT ENDED *BADLY.*

VERY BADLY.

HE ***CHEATED*** ON YOU, DIDN'T HE? AND THAT'S WHAT GOT YOU SO ***CRAZY*** ABOUT *PETER* --

-- WHEN YOU THOUGHT THE SAME THING COULD BE HAPPENING TO ME, YOU --

-- I WAS.

NO, MARY JANE -- YOU DON'T ***UNDERSTAND. HE*** WASN'T THE ONE WHO HAD AN AFFAIR --

...BRING HER IN A LITTLE ***LOWER,*** BOYS --

-- GENTLY, ***GENTLY*** --

AND NOW, ON ***MY COMMAND*** --

HEY -- CHECK IT ***OUT!*** MUST BE SOME KINDA ***PUBLICITY STUNT!***

YEAH -- I BETCHA THERE'S A NEW ***ROGER RABBIT*** MOVIE COMING --

-- ***BOMBS AWAY!***

KA-THOOM

-- OUT --?!

I DON'T ***KNOW*** ABOUT THIS, ***M.H.*** -- WHAT IF PEOPLE GET HURT?

DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, ***D.M.*** -- I'M AIMING AWAY FROM THE CROWD! THE SIGHT OF BLOOD MAKES ME NAUSEOUS!

WHAT ARE YOU TWO MORONS ***WHISPERING*** ABOUT?!

NOTHING, YOUR WHISKERED MAJESTY -- ***NOTHING!***

PUT ME ON THE LOUDSPEAKER -- I HAVE A ***MESSAGE*** FOR THE MAYOR!

YOU'RE ON!

*ATTENTION **MAYOR** -- THIS IS THE **WHITE RABBIT** SPEAKING!*

*DUE TO YOUR INSULTING COUNTER-OFFER -- MY ASKING PRICE HAS JUST GONE UP -- TO **FIVE MILLION DOLLARS!** AND I WANT THAT IN **QUARTERS!***

*IF YOU DON'T COMPLY -- I'M GOING TO BOMB MANHATTAN BACK INTO THE **STONE AGE** --*

*LET'S SEE WHAT **THAT** DOES FOR YOUR EDUCATION PROGRAM.*

SIR -- I ***TOLD*** YOU WE SHOULD HAVE OFFERED HER AT ***LEAST*** FIFTY DOLLARS!

Oh, SHUT UP!

AND, OUT OF THE NIGHT, A ***SHADOWED FIGURE*** SPRINGS --

-- EFFORTLESSLY LEAPING FOR THE WHITE RABBIT'S ASCENDING SHIP!

AND, THOUGH THE UNSUSPECTING MASSES BELOW DON'T REALIZE IT --

-- TODAY -- A ***NEW LEGEND*** IS BORN!

IF ***MARY JANE*** COULD SEE ME ***NOW!***

...WELL, HERE WE ARE BACK AT THE ***RABBIT-HOLE*** --

AND HOW'S ***THAT*** FOR A TRANSITON?

-- WHERE IT'S TIME TO BID A NOT-SO-FOND ADIEU TO THAT BUFFOONISH BEAR AND HIS SIMIAN COHORT!

NO HARD ***FEELINGS,*** GRIZZLY -- BUT I DON'T ***NEED*** YOU ANY MORE!

GET READY FOR ***LUNCH,*** CHILDREN --

-- AND BE SURE TO ***EAT YOUR FILL!***

NOW WAIT A MINUTE, RABBIT -- MAYBE YOU'D BETTER THINK THIS THING --

THROUGHH!

WOKKITAWOKKITAWO

KRAASSHH

WHAT IN THE NAME OF ***CHUCK JONES*** --?

ALRIGHT, LADY -- TURN OVER THE GRIZZLY AND GIBBON AND ***SURRENDER!***

WHO ARE YOU -- THE ***UNKNOWN COMIC?***

NO -- I'M THE...Um...THE BOMBASTIC ***BAG-MAN!***

HE'S ***KIDDING,*** RIGHT?

ONE CAN ONLY ***HOPE!***

CONSIDERING WHAT *YOU'RE* WEARING, LADY --

-- I'D BE *CAREFUL* WITH THE *INSULTS!*

WELL, WHAT ARE YOU IMBECILES *WAITING* FOR?

GET HIM!

HO-HO-HO --

THE BAG-MAN *LAUGHS* IN THE FACE OF DANGER!

BLAM BLAM BLAM

KONK

ONCE I WAS A TIMID *GROCERY STORE CLERK,* CONTENT TO STUFF OTHER PEOPLE'S EDIBLES INTO BROWN PAPER SACKS --

-- THEN ONE DAY, A *LIGHTNING BOLT* SHATTERED A SHIPMENT OF EXOTIC *SHAMPOOS* --

SPONKK

-- SPATTERING ME WITH A ONCE-IN-A-LIFETIME MIX OF *PERFUMES, HERBS* AND *NON-TOXIC CHEMICALS* --

-- AND I DISCOVERED THAT, IN THAT AUSPICIOUS ACCIDENT, I HAD BEEN -- *TRANSFORMED!*

FATE HAD GRANTED ME *SUPER-POWERS!*

I COULD *FLY* -- *TWELVE FEET* ABOVE THE GROUND!

BAKOOM

I HAD THE STRENGTH OF *TWO-AND-A-HALF MEN!*

AND I HAD THE UNCANNY ABILITY TO SEE IN THE DARK WITHOUT A *NIGHT-LIGHT!*

SHALL WE?

INDUBITABLY!

AND WHERE --

-- DO *YOU* TWO --

EEK!

-- THINK YOU'RE GOING?

MERCY! MERCY!

WE'RE NOT CROOKS -- WE'RE JUST A COUPLE OF OUT OF WORK ACTORS!

THE RABBIT HIRED US TO PLAY HER PARTNERS 'CAUSE SHE COULDN'T GET ANY REAL SUPER-VILLAINS TO TEAM UP WITH HER!

NOT EVEN THE BIG WHEEL?

NOT EVEN THE BIG WHEEL!

Uh-Oh!

TRAITORS!

I PAID YOU MORE THAN S.A.G. MINIMUM -- AND THIS IS THE THANKS I GET?!

NOW -- YOU SHALL ALL DIE!

I THINK THIS BUNNY MOTIF IS DEFINITELY GETTING TIRED!

Oh, YOU DO, Eh?

WELL, EAT HOT CARROTS!

KOOOM

AND NOW -- TO *UNMASK* THIS BAG MAN -- AND ADD HIS *COWL* TO MY COLLECTION!

WELL, ACTUALLY I DON'T *HAVE* A COLLECTION YET -- BUT A PERSON'S GOT TO START --

TAP TAP TAP -- SOMEWHERE?

IT'S *OVER*, RABBIT! YOU'RE *FINISHED!*

YOU?! BUT -- HOW DID YOU ESCAPE MY *PIT OF DOOM?!*

YOU FORGOT TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE BOY-MONKEY'S *NATURAL AFFINITY* FOR THE *ANIMAL KINGDOM!*

HE HAD YOUR BUNNIES EATING OUT OF HIS HAND IN A MATTER OF *SECONDS!*

NO!

YUP! WITH A LITTLE ENCOURAGEMENT, THEY *GNAWED* THROUGH OUR BONDS --

AND NOW, NEFARIOUS EVIL-DOER --

SWAK

-- I'M GONNA BELT YOU FROM HERE *T'WONDERLAND!*

GRIZ -- *NO!* THEY'LL NEVER MAKE AN *ACTION FIGURE* OF A HERO WHO BEATS UP ON WOMEN!

AND I REALLY WOULDN'T USE THE WORD "*NEFARIOUS*" TWICE IN THE SAME STORY!

GIBBON, GIBBON, GIBBON -- THIS IS THE *NINETIES!*

THEY'D CALL ME SEXIST IF I *DIDN'T* POUND 'ER ONE!

TOOM

KRATCH

NOW, LETS YOU AN' ME GIVE THIS BUNNY-ROBOT THE OLD HEAVE-HO --

-- AN' CALL IT A *JOB WELL DONE!*

FER BLUNGETT

YOU TWO ARE *REALLY SOMETHING!*

HEY -- BAG-MAN... YER *OKAY!*

YEAH, I JUST CAME TO -- AND MANAGED TO TIE THESE TWO WILLIAM SHATNER WANNABES *UP!*

ACTUALLY, I WAS AWAKE THE *WHOLE TIME!* I SAW GRIZZLY AND GIBBON COMING OUT OF THE *PIT* --

-- AND FIGURED I'D *FAKE* BEING KNOCKED OUT SO THEY COULD HAVE A CHANCE TO TAKE THE RABBIT DOWN *THEMSELVES!*

YER *NEW* AT THIS SUPER-HERO GAME, AIN'T YA, KID?

Uh... WELL, *YEAH.*

YOU'VE GOT TALENT -- I CAN *SEE* THAT -- BUT IT TAKES TIME T'LEARN THE TRICKS O'*THIS* TRADE!

T'BECOME *LIVING LEGENDS* LIKE ME AN' THE *BOY MONKEY* HERE!

IS THAT *TRUE,* Mr. GRIZZLY, SIR?

SURE IS!

FIRST OF ALL, IT TAKES *COURAGE!* AN' A *FIGHTING SPIRIT!*

REALLY, SIR?

NOT T'MENTION A DEDICATION TO TRUTH, JUSTICE, AND ALL THAT OTHER HIGHFALUTIN ☠#€@*⋆!

GRIZ -- *WATCH YOUR LANGUAGE!*

BUT THE MOST *IMPORTANT* THING A SUPER-HERO NEEDS IS A *PARTNER!*

Aw, GEEZ, GRIZ -- I'M *TOUCHED!*

THIS WAY YOU CAN GET *TWO* ACTION FIGURES ON THE MARKET INSTEAD O' *ONE!*

AN' *THEN* IF YA CHANGE YER *COSTUME* AROUND A COUPLE O' TIMES -- *JEEZ!*

YOU'LL MAKE A ☠#€@*⋆ *MINT!*

Daily Glob

NEW SUPER-HERO
ON THE BLOCK
GRIZZLY & GIBBON ST
THE WHITE RABBIT GAN

TOY BIZ OFFERS NEW HEROES MAJOR DE

EXCLUSIVE BY
PAMELA ANDEREGG

After a grueling stand-off, Grizzly and the boy-monkey, Gibbon, freed themselves from near-death to stop the White Rabbit and her nefarious gang and secured an action figure deal with Toy Biz. What's next? "We think maybe we'll write a play" Gibbon said. "Small theatre is the wave of the future and we get a lot of inspiration from the likes of Mamet. Wilde and even Scholl. Maybe we can get Leonardo Dicaprio to take a month out of his busy schedule to portray me, and Grizzly hopes to attract the likes of Mel Gibson or Marlon Brando." Any motion picture dreams? "Nope! We're not suckers!" L.A.'s Theatre of NOTE has already expressed an interest and reputed director, Mik Kriolad Dolotta is pitching t "I feel their struggle." "These guys hav a long tim

...A BAG ON YOUR HEAD?!

ACTUALLY -- IT **WAS** RATHER STYLISH!

IN A... ***LUDICROUS*** KIND OF WAY.

HOW COME AUNT ANNA DOESN'T WANT TO ***JOIN*** US?

I THINK SHE NEEDS TO BE ***ALONE*** TONIGHT.

SHE ALL RIGHT?

I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT IT LATER, OKAY?

SURE.

Y'KNOW WHAT THE ***WILDEST*** PART ABOUT TODAY WAS? I HAD ***FUN!*** I DON'T ***REMEMBER*** THE LAST TIME I HAD FUN AS ***SPIDER-MAN!***

SPEAKING OF ***FUN*** -- WAIT'LL YOU SEE WHAT I'VE GOT FOR YOU!

YOU ORDER SOME-THING NEW FROM ***"VICTORIA'S SECRET"?***

NOT ***EXACTLY*** --

WHADDAYOU *THINK?*

IT'S NOT WHAT I EXPECTED, BUT, *HEY* -- YOU LOOK SEXY IN JUST ABOUT *ANYTHING!*

IT'S NOT FOR *ME*, YOU IDIOT -- IT'S FOR *YOU!*

YOU BOUGHT *ME* SOME-THING FROM *"VICTORIA'S SECRET"*?

IT'S THE *NEW COSTUME* I DESIGNED FOR YOU!

YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE ALL THE FUN YOU WANT *AND* BE ON THE CUTTING EDGE OF SUPER-HERO COUTURE!

GO AHEAD -- TRY IT *ON!*

Mmm. YOU *DO* WEAR TIGHTS WELL!

STOP! YOU'RE *EMBARRASSING* ME!

NOW LET'S GET TO WORK ON YOUR FACE --

WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY *FACE?*

NOTHING THAT I CAN'T FIX! A LITTLE *MAKE-UP* --

MAKE-UP? BLECCHH!

-- A NEW NOSE --

WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY *NOSE?*

PETER -- A PART OF YOUR FACE IS EXPOSED...SO I THOUGHT I'D USE SOME OF MY OLD *THEATER TRICKS* TO MAKE A FEW CHANGES --

BUT -- A *NEW NOSE?!*

HEY -- *ORSON WELLES* DID IT ALL THE TIME!

TAKE A *LOOK,* TIGER!

Y'KNOW, THIS AIN'T *HALF-BAD* --

-- ALTHOUGH THESE *FAKE MUSCLES* ITCH LIKE CRAZY!

BUT, Y'KNOW, BETWEEN THIS AND *DUSK* AND THE *OTHER* TWO GET-UPS -- NO ONE WILL SUSPECT THAT SPIDER-MAN'S STILL OUT THERE FIGHTING THE *GOOD FIGHT!*

LET *ALONE* UNDER FOUR DIFFERENT NAMES!

AND WHO KNOWS? YOU MIGHT ACTUALLY GET THE PUBLIC TO *LIKE* YOU!

YOU THINK I'LL GET MY OWN CARTOON ON *FOX?*

YOU WILL -- IF YOU USE THE NAME I CAME UP WITH: ***PRODIGY!***

PRODIGY?

IT MEANS A PERSON WITH ***EXCEPTIONAL TALENTS*** OR ***POWERS.*** IT CAN ***ALSO*** MEAN THAT --

I ***KNOW*** WHAT IT MEANS!

SO --?

I'LL USE IT -- UNDER ***ONE CONDITION*** --

WHAT'S THAT?

-- ***LEONARDO DiCAPRIO*** PLAYS ME IN *"PRODIGY: THE MOVIE"!*

I'LL GIVE ***JIM CAMERON*** A CALL -- FIRST THING IN THE MORNING!

NEXT: **PRODIGY!** *WHO ELSE?*

WANTED
DEAD OR ALIVE

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PREFERABLY DEAD

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SPIDERHUNT PART 1

DEZAGO BENNETT MILGROM

VARIANT COVER

WANTED
DEAD OR ALIVE

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SPIDER-HUNT PART 2

VARIANT COVER

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SPIDERHUNT PART 3

MACKIE ROMITA JR HANNA

VARIANT COVER

WANTED
DEAD OR ALIVE

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THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

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SPIDERHUNT PART 4

DEMATTEIS ROSS GREEN MILGROM

VARIANT COVER

SPIDEY FACES A VIRTUAL WHO'S WHO OF HIS GREATEST VILLAINS AS AN INNOCENT LIFE HANGS IN THE BALANCE!

The Friendly Neighborhood Spider-Man isn't on anyone's list of friends when he's framed for murder — with a five-million-dollar bounty on his webbed head! And the whole city seems to be trying to collect the big reward! With villains on the hunt everywhere he turns, can he survive long enough to find Harry Osborn's missing son?

Collecting *Sensational Spider-Man (1996) #25-26, Amazing Spider-Man (1963) #432-433, Spider-Man (1990) #88-90* and *Spectacular Spider-Man (1976) #254-256* — written by Todd Dezago, Tom DeFalco, Howard Mackie and J.M. DeMatteis; and illustrated by Joe Bennett, Todd Nauck, John Romita Jr., Tom Lyle and Luke Ross.

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Shadowcat